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THE HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE OF ORANGE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Prepared by Todd Peck and Jody Carter
For the Orange County Historic Preservation Commission

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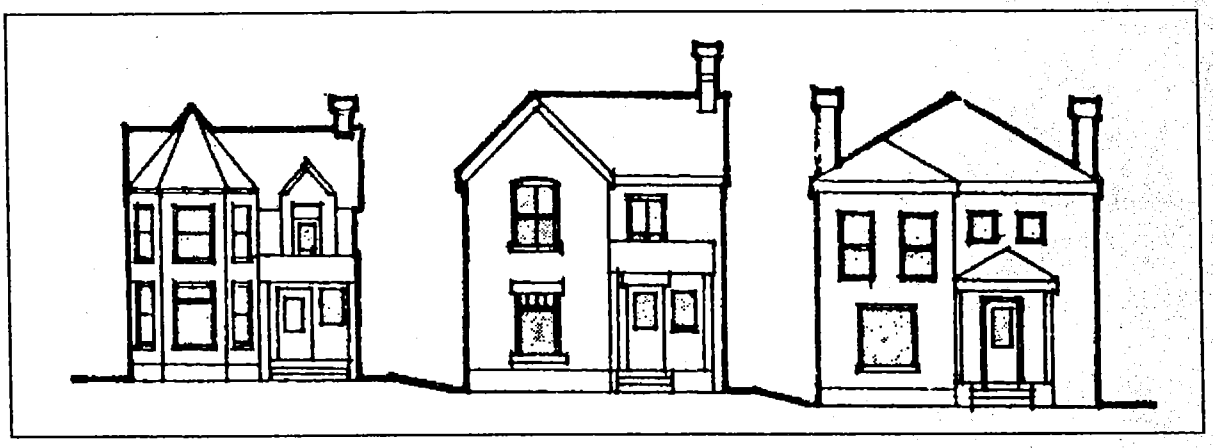

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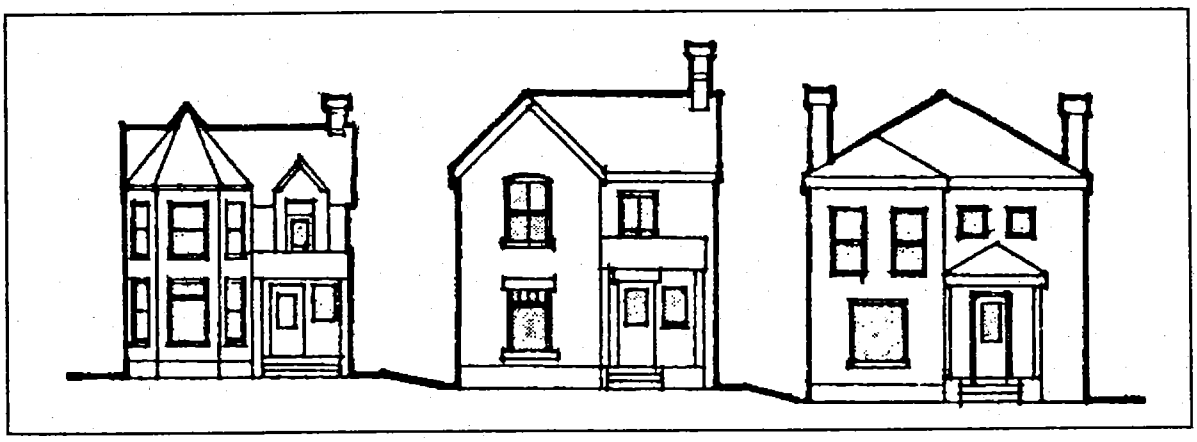

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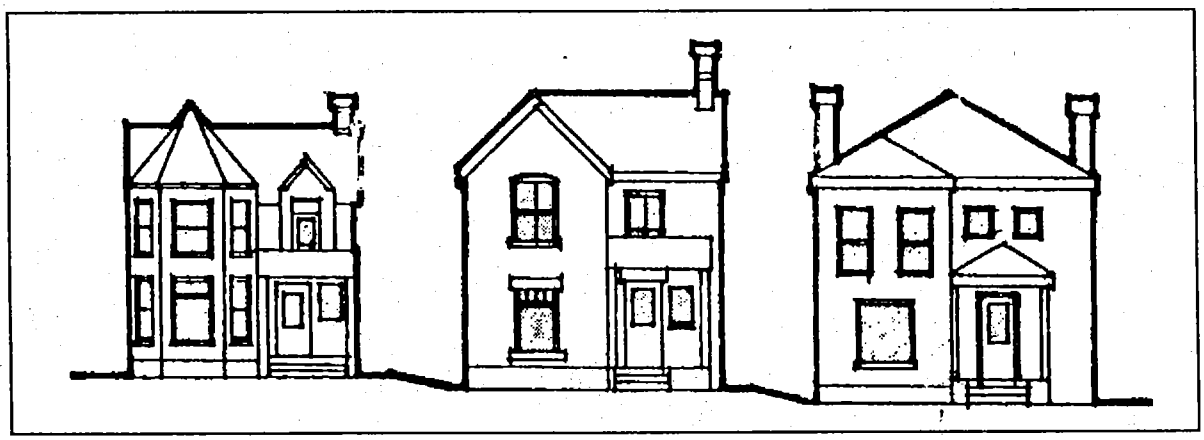
SECTION I: A Historical Perspective



THE LAND: ORANGE COUNTY'S PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Located in the Piedmont region of North Carolina, a section of North Carolina sloping from the mountains to the Coastal Plain, Orange County is characterized by rolling terrain, fertile soils along numerous creek beds, and scattered farmsteads. The topography ranges from predominant gently rolling uplands to steep areas occurring in the northwestern and southern parts. At 830 feet above sea level, Occoneechee Mountain, which overlooks Hillsborough, has the highest elevation in the county.1

Formed in 1752, the county originally encompassed approximately 3500 square miles and stretched sixty miles south from the Virginia line to the Earl of Granville's line? on the east bounded by Granville, Johnston, and Bladen Counties, and in 1752 by Rowan County on the west. The formation of all or part of nine counties from original Orange County land, beginning in 1771 with the formation of Chatham County and ending in 1881 with that of Durham County, has resulted in its present 398 square miles. Bordering Orange County are Person and Caswell Counties to the north, Alamance to the west, Chatham to the south and Durham to the east.

might read better as 2 sentences?

The numerous rivers, creeks, and streams that wind their way through Orange County include the Eno, Little, and Haw Rivers, and Cane, New Hope, and Morgan Creeks. The Eno River and the northern branch of the Little River drain northeast Orange County into the Neuse River. New Hope and Morgan Creeks drain the

southeastern and eastern sections and the Haw River and Cane Creek drain the western and southwestern sections into the Cape Fear River.2 Typical of an agricultural landscape, farm ponds and small man-made lakes dot the countryside.

The rich silt loam and clay loam which dominate the soils of Orange County provide a fertile base for the major crops. Georgeville silt loam and Davidson clay loam cover approximately fifty percent of the county but are generally limited to the central section. In the southwest portion of the county, silt loam also predominates. Georgeville silt loam is primarily adapted to grains and grasses while corn, wheat, oats and legumes grow well in the clay loam of the Davidson series. Sandy loams, scattered throughout the county, but concentrated in the northern part, provide the drainage that is required for the cultivation of tobacco. Although erosion is a problem the topography is favorable for farming. Roughly 49,000 acres of Orange County's land are used for cropland. Of the remaining acreage 25,000 are used as pasture, 154,500 for woodland, and 26,000 for urban and other purposes.3

The climate of Orange County is typical for the Piedmont, with the winter temperature falling to freezing on more than half the days in winter, but rarely staying there for twenty-four hours. Cold waves of winter are subdued by the mountains to the west. The spring is mild, and summers are hot with high temperatures of 80 to 90 degrees occurring about 50 times from late May through October. Summer precipitation is generally the

result of late afternoon and evening thundershowers. On average, the growing season is 200 days and the annual rain fall is 42 inches.4

will archaeological survey change this section?

HISTORIC BACKGROUND:

PREHISTORIC SETTLEMENT IN ORANGE COUNTY

The Haw, Occaneechi and Eno Indians were living in the Piedmont area of North Carolina in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries when the first explorers arrived. Located on the Eno River near Hillsborough is the Fredricks archaeological site, which contains the remains of an Occaneechi village that was visited in 1701 by John Lawson. Lawson was an ~~the~~ English explorer who recorded information on the local inhabitants and published his observations in 1709 in A New Voyage to Carolina. In addition to this large contact? period Indian village, there are many smaller prehistoric sites scattered throughout the county attesting to the intensive occupation of Orange County by Native Americans. By the mid-eighteenth century as described by early explorers, the tribes of present day Orange County had already suffered the ravages of disease and alcohol introduced by European traders and as well as longstanding inter-tribal rivalries. A drastically reduced Indian population had vacated their homelands decades before white arrival. Consequently, when the first settlers arrived in present-day Orange County in the 1740's there was little evidence of Native American occupation.5

EARLY SETTLEMENT AND GROWTH: 1750-1800

Although there were few European settlers in the Piedmont area of North Carolina during the 1730s and 1740s, by the 1750s the region experienced a population surge. Emigrating primarily from Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey and to a lesser extent the coastal region of North Carolina, colonist were lured to Orange County by the promise of cheap and fertile land. In addition, many Scots, Scotch-Irish, and Germans came to Piedmont North Carolina to escape worsening economic, religious and political conditions in their native lands.6

The earliest land acquisitions in Orange County were secured by grant or patent through the Earl of Granville's agent. At this time the county was located in the Granville district, 27,000 square miles of land extending from Virginia to a line sixty miles south, a tract which had been retained by Lord Granville when other proprietary lands were returned to the crown. Since the most promising agricultural land lay near rivers or creeks, early land grants from 1745 to 1765 were located along the Eno, Hico, Dan, Haw and Little Rivers, and New Hope, Cain (Cane), Stinking Quarter, and Buffalo creeks. Settlers maintained strong ethnic ties and soon formed distinct communities. The Scotch-Irish community of Eno was located about seven miles north of Hillsborough. Scotch-Irish families also settled east of the Haw River, and in eastern Orange County along

the Little River and New Hope Creek. Land in western Orange County, along the Haw River and Cain Creek, was settled by many of the Germans who came to the county. Settling in the northern section were families of English descent from Virginia.7

In addition, coming largely from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, Quakers made up a large proportion of this early population in Orange County. Although some Quakers settled north of Hillsborough, most settled in the southwestern section of the County, in present Chatham, Alamance, and Randolph Counties. With the start of the American Revolution, immigration slowed and redistribution began among the Quakers. The establishment of Guilford and Chatham counties in 1771 and Alamance county in 1849 removed most of the Quakers from Orange County.8 The Revolutionary War severely tested the religious strength of the Quakers whose faith opposed violence and armed conflict. By the end of the Revolution, between forty and fifty men had been disowned by the Cane Creek Meeting for their involvement in the Revolution. Eno Meeting, the last in the county, came to an end by the middle of the nineteenth century.9

By 1752 when Orange County was established as a political entity its population had grown to 4,000. The new county, formed from Johnston, Bladen, and Granville Counties, was named in honor of William V of Orange. In 1754, the county seat named simply "Orange," was laid out where the old Trading Path crossed the Eno River, near the Occoneechee hills. Sited on four hundred acres granted to William Churton, Orange consisted of a town and

common. The first courthouse, a modest one-story, weatherboard structure, was ready for use in 1756; until then, court had been held in James Watson's home. Also in 1756, the town was renamed "Corbin Town" after Francis Corbin who was Earl Granville's land agent. In 1759 the name was changed to Childsburg for Thomas Child, Attorney-General of North Carolina (1751-1760) and another of Granville's land agents. Finally, in 1766 the town's name was changed to Hillsborough in honor of the Earl of Hillsborough, who was the British Secretary of State for the Colonies.10 As the seat of one of the largest counties in the burgeoning back country, eighteenth century Hillsborough was among the most important political and trading centers of the Piedmont.

The roads that traversed Orange County often took the routes of old Indian trading paths that had crossed the area. When settlers first began to arrive these Indian paths were still the primary transportation routes. Two main thoroughfares, the "Great Wagon Road" originating near Philadelphia and the Indian Trading Path running southwest from Virginia, brought a majority of the settlers into Piedmont North Carolina. When Orange County was formed in 1752, there were only a few important trading routes running throughout the county. As Hillsborough was the county seat and center of commercial and political activity most of the roads radiated from there. By 1796 federal post roads converged on Hillsborough from four points--Person Court House from the north, Harrisburg the northeast, Chapel Hill from the south and Martinsville from the west.11 Today NC 86 and NC 57

generally follow the routes of the former post roads from Hillsborough to Person Court House (now Roxboro) and to Oxford, respectively.

The majority of these main roads were not often used by the self-sufficient farmers of Orange County. Instead local residents built roads and paths as they needed them, not necessarily leading to a central destination, but between neighboring farms. These roads or paths were used as local corridors of commerce and communication among neighborhoods. Historic roads can often be identified from their names and association with early transportation and other industrial enterprises. Faucette Mill Road, Morrow Mill Road, Jones Ferry Road, and Stagecoach Drive are examples of extant roads with historic origins. Some early farm roads were named for the dominant family in the area, such as Blalock Road, Caviness Jordan Road, McKee Road, and Lloydtown Road. However, road naming for individuals continues today in the county and so is not necessarily an indication of historic road patterns.

In the 1760s, Orange County became a hotbed of political strife. Organized by Piedmont farmers, the Regulator movement was a reaction against maladministration in local government and the domination of the government by the plantation aristocracy of eastern counties. In 1770 the newly populous western counties had only fifteen representatives in the Assembly, while the longer settled eastern counties had sixty-six. Hillsborough was the focal point of Regulator grievances and when their peaceful

efforts at reform showed no results, violence erupted. On May 16, 1771, the Regulators were defeated at the Battle of Alamance by Governor William Tryon's militia. Defeated and dissatisfied, many of the Regulators left North Carolina and moved to Georgia and the frontier region of Tennessee.12

In December, 1773, the North Carolina legislature appointed a Committee of Correspondence to maintain contact with other colonies and coordinate resistance to English governmental policies. Other signs of an impending break between England and her colonies followed, thrusting Orange County into the forefront of political activity when the war came. The first and second Provincial Congresses met in New Bern. The third Provincial Congress met in Hillsborough in August 1775; every county in North Carolina was represented among the 184 delegates. After Independence was declared in 1776 and war with England began, Hillsborough hosted the state legislature in 1778, 1780, 1782, 1783, and 1784.

Following the American Revolution, Orange County continued to play a major role in North Carolina politics. The state legislature met once in Hillsborough and for a time the town was considered as a possible location for the new state capital. Although Hillsborough was not chosen as the state capital, the first university to admit students in the country was located in Orange County. The University of North Carolina was founded in 1789, located a few years later at New Hope Chapel Hill about fourteen miles south of Hillsborough, and opened in 1795. The

accompanying village of Chapel Hill was founded in 1793.13

Although Orange County was the site of important political and educational events and therefore influenced by leaders of the day, the small farmer was the backbone of the county. Between 1752 and 1800 approximately eighty percent of property owners held between fifty and one hundred acres. The majority of these farmers established farmsteads outside Hillsborough, intent on surviving and carving out a life for their families, in which each family provided for most of its own needs. The self-sufficient farm family raised a variety of subsistence crops such as beans, peas, wheat, corn, and sweet and Irish potatoes.14 If land was sufficient, in addition to subsistence crops, corn or wheat was grown to provide cash or trade at a local store for goods not manufactured on the farm. Wheat and corn were popular cash crops among small farmers because neither was labor intensive or required numerous slaves. And corn, while satisfying many of the farmer's food needs along with those of his livestock, could be turned into whiskey and used as a source of cash.15 Because slavery followed agricultural patterns, and Orange County was dominated by subsistence farmers, there was a low slave population. In 1775 eight percent of the heads of households owned any slaves. In 1790, ninety-five percent of those who owned slaves had fewer then ten slaves and only one percent had more then twenty slaves.16

Although agriculture was the primary occupation of residents of rural Orange County during the eighteenth century,

blacksmiths, tanners, coopers, weavers, and wagonmakers all provided services essential for the operation of a farmstead. But a key to the agricultural economy was the establishment of grist and flourmills. Early settlement was located along rivers and streams because these waterways provided a water supply, fertile soil, and transportation. In addition mills were an important economic consideration, and if possible, shortly after establishing a farmstead a mill was constructed. Mills ground corn and wheat so the farmer could feed his family and transport any excess to market more easily. Numerous mills were located along the many swift and shallow streams of early Orange County. These included Michael Synnott's mill, the first mill on record in Orange County built sometime before 1752, Few's Mill established in 1758 on the Eno River, Maddock's Mill, built before 1755 and Faucette's Mill, continuously operated under various owners until 1918.17 These early milling operations touched most aspects of daily life in the county. In addition to providing a necessary service they also functioned as centers of social interaction. Residents who lived largely in isolation or had limited contact with neighbors found the mill a welcome place to exchange news and visit family and friends.18

The self-sufficient nature of the farmers of rural Orange County precluded the development of towns outside the county seat. Instead landowners, surrounded by their extended family, formed small communities. Churches, blacksmith shops, or country stores, especially if a post office had been established, also

had the potential to become the nucleus of a community. Communities also formed where several families settled along well travelled east-west and north-south routes. Cedar Grove was founded at the point where the road leading from Graves Mill in the north to Hillsborough in the south met a branch road extending from the road leading southwest to the Western Trading Path.19 The Allisons and Hughes were early settlers in this area. Today Cedar Grove is still a viable, cohesive community.

RELIGION AND EDUCATION

Churches played a pivotal part in the county's social life. Each settling group established churches as gathering places for religious as well as secular meetings. Churches were established shortly after their arrival. The majority in the region in the mid-eighteenth century were of Scotch or Scotch-Irish descent and Presbyterian faith. The great wave of Presbyterian migration to North Carolina began due to the availability of cheap land and the promise of religious freedom. The first Presbyterian church in Orange County, Grier's Presbyterian, was established at High Towers in 1753 in what is now Caswell County. Other congregations were soon established at Hawfields in 1755 and at Eno and New Hope in 1756.20 Little River Presbyterian Church established in 1761 was a cohesive element in the northeast section of Orange County. Quakers started migrating to what was to become Orange County in 1748. In 1751 the Cane Creek community established a Monthly Meeting, eventually other

Meetings were started in Orange County, one northeast of Hillsborough. With the formation of Guilford, Chatham and Alamance Counties all the original Orange County Meetings were located outside the County with the exception of Eno Meeting. The first Baptist congregation in Orange County was established by Shubael Stearns in 1755 at Sandy Creek in present-day Randolph County. Within a few years Stearns's congregation numbered 600 people. Other Baptist churches were established at Haw River, Rock Spring, Rocky River, and Cane Creek, all parts of old Orange County.21

In addition to their function as centers of religious activity churches played a pivotal part in the education of the county's residents. Early education in the North Carolina colony among the sparsely settled population of the interior was limited. The few early bills to establish public schools and promote education met with little success. Education was basically left up to the desire of the community. English Quakers, Scots, all Scotch-Irish and German settlers of Orange County placed a high priority on the establishments of a church and schoolhouse. By the late 1750s, the Cane Creek and Eno communities had schools run by the Quakers and the Scots Presbyterians, respectively, who emphasized education and moral upbringing of their children. During the late eighteenth century private academies provided a broader curriculum than the church run schools in other parts of North Carolina. The Hillsborough Academy, known to have been operating by 1801, may be the only

such institution in Orange County to pre-date 1800. Because neither state nor local government provided money to academies, tuition had to be charged to hire a teacher and maintain the school. The majority of the small farmers of Orange County could not afford tuition, so that whatever education their children received was through the local church or at home.22

establishment of public schools in Orange County passed by a vote of 1,357 to 455.28 Although by the outbreak of the Civil War North Carolina had one of the best school systems in the country, there were nevertheless many difficulties. The academies and old field schools systems were somewhat jealous of the public school system and public education was not favored by many of the wealthier farmers.29 The early public schools were basic, teachers were undertrained, educational materials were limited, and funding was insufficient. Yet in spite of these problems, in 1860 Orange County had twenty-five public schools with a total enrollment of 2,163.30

In the early nineteenth century the economic well-being of Orange County remained firmly rooted in the soil; in 1820 ninety-three percent of the employed population was in agriculture, six percent in manufacturing, and only one percent in commerce. Diversified farming remained the rule with corn, wheat, potatoes, peas, oats, and tobacco the principal crops. Farmers raised sheep and cattle, but primarily swine. Lacking reliable and convenient means of transporting excess goods to market, most farmers continued to rely on subsistence and small-time cash crop agriculture. Even so, the small farmer generally grew a few acres of tobacco to provide cash or trade at the local store for goods not made on the farm. In the early and mid-nineteenth century fewer than five percent of landowners held more than one-thousand acres.31

Cotton, a cash crop generally restricted to a small number

of large-scale planters in the central section of the county, increased dramatically in production from 1840 with 253,437 pounds to 1850 with 922,000 pounds. This rise in cotton production was due in part to the new cotton industry forming in the western part of Orange County. The first cotton mill was built in 1837 by Edwin Holt on Alamance Creek. The second, operated by Quaker John Newlin, was built in 1844 on the east side of Haw River. But by 1860 Orange County's cotton production had dropped just as rapidly as it had gained in 1850 to approximately 340,000 pounds: due to the creation of Alamance County which contained the principal cotton lands. The 1850 statistic was based on 1849 production before Alamance County was officially separated from Orange. Much of the cotton production was in the west-central part of Orange County which became part of Alamance County.32

Tobacco, an important part of the economy of Orange County in the late antebellum period, was grown by small and large-scale farmers alike. Whereas in 1860 corn and wheat were grown equally in north and south Orange County, and cotton was limited to the central section, approximately seventy-five percent of the tobacco grown was raised in the northern section.33 An advertisement for land for sale in the Hillsborough Recorder dated April 11, 1860 acknowledged the superiority of the soils in northern Orange County for raising tobacco: " the subscriber wishing to dispose of a tract of land, takes this method of informing Tobacco farmers where they can find a good bargain in

land inferior to none for raising tobacco. The said tract lies in the Northern part of Orange County...containing 200 acres." After showing a loss in the number of pounds grown between 1840 and 1850 from approximately 263,000 to 194,000, by 1860 the county's production of tobacco had reached an alltime high of approximately 1,160,000 pounds. From 1840 to 1860 Orange County rose from ninth to seventh in the production of tobacco among the counties of North Carolina. Reflecting this increase in production in the value of tobacco as a product in Orange County from $1,000 in 1840 to $34,000 in 1860.[34]

A significant part of this surge of agricultural and industrial activity in the mid-nineteenth century can be credited to the coming of the North Carolina Railroad. By 1829 meetings were being held in western North Carolina advocating railroads. Leaders of the railroad movement in the west realized that in the absence of navigable rivers such as the east had, railroads were the key to the future economic prosperity of the landlocked west. Dr. Joseph Caldwell, president of the University of North Carolina (1804-1812, 1816-1835), took a leading role creating interest in the railroad among citizens of the piedmont. The first meeting of residents to discuss transportation in Orange County was held under Caldwell's direction in 1829. During the 1830s meetings were held throughout the state to discuss the railroad. After numerous railroad bills were defeated in the state legislature, a bill finally passed in January, 1849. The proposed North Carolina Railroad would run from Goldsboro in the

east to Charlotte in the southwest Piedmont by way of Raleigh, Hillsborough, Greensboro, Salisbury, and Concord. Tracklaying began on June 23, 1853 just south of Goldsboro at the eastern terminus. 35 By April, 1855, when the railroad had reached Hillsborough, excitement ran high. Typical was J.C. Turrentine and Son's announcement in the Hillsborough Recorder of April 12, 1855: "THE RAIL ROAD has at length reached Hillsborough, making quite a stir in our usually quiet village. The subscribers availing themselves of this great State work, are enable thus early after their purchase to offer to their customers and the public a New and Complete Stock of Dry Goods and Groceries" Not only did merchants benefit from the railroad, but manufacturers and farmers now had a reliable way to get their goods to market.

The coming of the North Carolina Railroad concentrated the development of communities and towns along its tracks. Small towns and industry that developed along the railroads tracks in Orange County include Mebaneville. Created in 1854, by 1860 Mebaneville boasted a doctor, hotel, and a country store.36 Durham's station, also built along the railroad tracts, was by the 1870s a center of trade and commerce for the tobacco industry.

Throughout the early nineteenth century more and more rural communities sprang up. Often they were named after the prominent family in the area such as Laws and McDade in the northwest section and Schley in the northeast section. Mason Hall, located in western Orange County along an east-west stagecoach road

leading into Hillsborough was named after the Mason family. By 1809 Mason Hall had a post office and by 1820 A. Mason wished "to inform his former customers and the public generally, that he has nearly finished his house, so that he is now able to accommodate as many as may honour him with their company.37 With the inn as the core, a blacksmith, general store and/or mill was probably located nearby to provide necessary services for the developing community and travellers. Mason Hall Eagle Hotel is still standing along West Lebanon road but is in a serious state of disrepair.

These small communities of the early 19th century served an important function for local residents as a place to buy and trade goods or visit a doctor or blacksmith if necessary. Cedar Grove, Caldwell, Mason Hall, Clover Garden, Oaks, Rock Springs, Bethmont, and Mount Willing had small populations in the early and mid-nineteenth century. By 1850 Cedar Grove, had in addition to Cedar Grove Academy, a tanner, coachmaker, doctor, and drygoods, hardware, and grocery store. Caldwell had a country store; White Cross, a country store and doctor; Oaks, home to Bingham Academy from circa 1814 to 1863, a country store, coach maker, blacksmith, and doctor.38

1.Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952 (Chapel Hill: The Orange County Printshop, 1953),1-2.

2.Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952,6.

3.Soil Survey of Orange County North Carolina, United States Department of Agriculture, 1977, 3-22.

4.Soil Survey of Orange County North Carolina, 1-2.

5. H. Trawick Ward and Stephen Davis, Jr., "Archaeology of the Historic Occaneechi Indians", Southern Indian Studies (October 1988):117-123.

6. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 14-15.

7. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 14-17.

8. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 290-292.

9. Ruth Blackwelder, The Age of Orange: Political and Intellectual Leadership in North Carolina, 1752-1961 (Charlotte, N.C.:Heritage Printers,1961) 8.

10. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 17-23.

11. Federal Post Road Map,1796.

12. William S. Powell, North Carolina Through Four Centuries (Chapel Hill and London: The University of North Carolina ress,1989), 148-159.

13. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 61-66.

14. William S. Powell, North Carolina Through Four Centuries, 4.

15. Jean Anderson, Durham County (Duke University Press: Durham and London, 1990), 46-48.

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17. Eno River Association Calender,1987.

18. Jean Anderson, Durham County, 51-52.

19. Collet Map, 1777.

20.Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952,310-313.

21. Robert C. Kenzer, Kinship and Neighborhood in a Southern Community: Orange County, North Carolina, 1849-1881 (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press,1987), 12.

22. Irene Oliver Pender, A History of Orange County Schools: 1732-1982(Hillsborough, N.C.: Shanklin's Press,1983), 9-14.

23. Ruth Blackwelder, The Age of Orange: Political and Intellectual Leadership in North Carolina, 1752-1961, 73.

24. William S. Powell, North Carolina Through Four Centuries, 249-250.

25. Ruth Blackwelder, The Age of Orange: Political and Intellectual Leadership in North Carolina, 1752-1961, 9-10.

26. Irene Oliver Pender, A History of Orange County Schools: 1732-1961, 14-16.

27. Jean Anderson, Durham County, 54.

28. Ruth Blackwelder, The Age of Orange: Political and Intellectual Leadership in North Carolina, 1752-1961, 85-86.

29. Irene Oliver Pender, A History of Orange County Schools: 1732-1983, 14-16.

30. Eighth Census of the United States,1860:Orange County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, National Archives, Washington,D.C. (microfilm, State Archives, Division of Archives and History,Raleigh).

31. Fourth Census of the United States,1820:Orange County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule.

32. Seventh and Eighth Census of the United States, 1850 and 1860:Orange County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule.

33. Robert C. Kenzer, Kinship and Neighborhood in a Southern Community: Orange County, North Carolina, 1849-1881, 196.

34. Sixth and Eighth Census of the United States of America,1840 and 1860:Orange County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedules.

35. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County, 1752-1952.

36. Eighth Census of the United States, 1860:Orange County, North Carolina, Manufacturing Schedule.

37. Hillsborough Recorder, March 1,1820.

38. Seventh Census of the United States,1850:Orange County, North Carolina, Manufacturing Census.

THE NEW AGRICULTURE IN POSTWAR ORANGE COUNTY: 1865-1890

As throughout the rest of the South, the effects of the Civil War were devastating to an agricultural county such as Orange; crop production had declined, as had the value of land; by the early 1870s large plantations were broken up into smaller ones, and there was an overall decrease in the size of individual farms. Although large landowners in Orange County held on to most of their land immediately after the Civil War, without a reliable supply of labor and with decreased capital, many had to take land out of production. The result was a break-up of large land holdings, an increase in the number of small farms, and a shift toward to the tenant farm system. Tenant farming fell into two categories: those who rented the land for a fixed monetary price and those who worked for a share of the crops. Typically in the former system, tenants provided their own farm implements and received two-thirds to one-half the corn and cash crop money. In the latter, sharecroppers were provided land, housing, and farm implements and kept about one-half of the crop in return for their labor. The exact arrangements for both tenants and sharecroppers varied from farmer to farmer.

Tenant farming or sharecropping, while allowing some black farmers the newfound freedom of providing for their families, was generally not beneficial to the worker and certainly not to the land. By necessity tenant farming encouraged a one- or two-crop system; in return for providing credit to the tenant, the merchant or landlord required a crop easily converted to cash: corn, tobacco, or cotton.

lanting the same crop with no variation or rotation from year to year esulted in soil depletion and reduced per-acre yield which in turn ade it difficult to reap a large enough harvest to cover the next ear's debts Although tenant families seldom starved, relying as ney did on gardens and hunting, their standard of living was often xtremely low. The small amount of cash tenants made, usually eceived in one lump sum after the cash crop was sold in the fall, was enerally already owed to the local merchant or landlord.1

Through habit, tradition and financial hardships, a majority of ural Orange County residents remained on the farm through the period f adjustment during the late 1860s and through the 1870s. Just prior o the Civil War the value of farms in Orange County was $2,141,690; nproved land amounted to 101,354 acres, and unimproved, 246,040 cres; and 1,159,764 pounds of tobacco, 400,242 bushels of corn, 57,794 of wheat, 81,825 of oats, and 848 bales of cotton were rown.2 By 1870 high taxes, decreasing land values, low prices for roducts, and the expense of getting goods to market had combined to reate a serious agricultural depression that hit Orange County armers hard.3 The total value of farms in 1870 was $977,308, nproved land had decreased to 73,745 acres, and unimproved had ncreased to 273,649 acres. The production of tobacco was down by ver 600,000 pounds from 1860, corn by 200,000 bushels, wheat, 25,000, and cotton by over 400 bales. Oats were the only crop which ained in production between 1860 and 1870 and that was by just over 0,000 bushels (1870 agriculture census).4

Although diversified farming was still the rule, the trend toward

ash crop farming continued, with the main crops being corn, and tobacco in northern Orange County, and cotton in the southern section. armer Aquilla Compton's situation between 1860 and 1870 exemplifies the county-wide trend toward cash crop farming and indicates the ffect of this agricultural depression on medium-sized farms in the ounty. In 1860 he owned 100 improved and 161 unimproved acres near Cedar Grove in northern Orange County. His farm was valued at $1,225 nd his personal estate $5,535. In addition to raising cows, sheep, and swine his crop yield consisted of 3,000 pounds of tobacco, 300 ushels of corn, 204 of wheat, 25 of oats, 20 pounds of wool, peas, nd sweet and Irish potatoes. By 1870 although Compton still owned 230 acres, only 30 were improved, and the amount of crops grown had ecreased dramatically to only 800 pounds of tobacco, 80 bushels of corn, and 30 bushels of oats. Although he still raised swine, and attle, and poultry instead of sheep, he did not cultivate potatoes or eas.5

By the 1880s a number of factors combined to intensify reliance n the one or two-cash crop system. Besides the growth in the number of manufacturers, particularly tobacco factories and cotton gins, the ailroad was expanding, thus enabling farmers to get their crops to arket. Tobacco and cotton saw the biggest rise in production with 1,178,732 pounds and 1,919 bales respectively reported in the 1880 gricultural census. The suitability of the soil in northern Orange County for growing the increasingly popular brightleaf tobacco and the roximity of Orange County farmers to the expanding manufacturers in urham resulted in this impressive increase in the production of

tobacco. And with the increase in the number of mills, particularly in the Piedmont where waterpower was available, cotton took on a renewed importance as a cash crop.6

By 1890 there were 1,992 farms in Orange County, with an average size of 114 acres. Approximately sixty-five percent of the farms were owner-operated. But tenancy was well established and in 1890 thirty-five percent of the farms in Orange County were operated by tenants. The average size owner-operated farm was between one-hundred and five-hundred acres, for tenant-operated it was between twenty and fifty acres.7

Following the regional trend towards urbanization in the post-Civil War period, there was some movement away from the farm. Many men and women left the farm in search of steady work in mills and factories, particularly in the burgeoning tobacco industries in Durham. Yet natural increase was such that Orange County did not experience a significant loss in its rural population: every Orange County township, even those remote from the North Carolina Railroad, increased in population between 1880 and 1890. Only the town of Hillsborough, where an increase would be expected, lost population, perhaps because of booming growth in Durham and other industrial cities.8

The new agriculture of post war Orange County brought about subtle changes in the architectural landscape. After the Civil War, with the breakup of large farmsteads and the rise of tenancy and share cropping, slave cabins gave way to tenant houses and subsistence farming gave way to the cash crop. Subsistence farming required a

large number and variety of support structures. Tenant farming, which focused on one or two cash crops, rather than the familiar range of food crops, required few outbuildings. The conservative nature of these small farmers who provided the social and economic backbone of rural Orange County was reflected in the built environment, particularly their homes. The two-story I-houses of the landowners continued to be built and expanded but more commonly seen were the small one-room functional houses of black and white tenants and share croppers. Once a common sight, the tenant houses of post Civil War Orange County are vanishing--having been razed, left to fall to ruin, or converted to outbuildings, leaving the larger homes dominating the landscape.

"THE SOUTH MUST BECOME A MANUFACTURER" Orange County takes the initiative: 1860-1870

Although North Carolina had stood on the brink of industrial expansion in the 1850s with the coming of the North Carolina Railroad, the Civil War brought about a hiatus in the development of industries. It was not until the late 1860s and 1870s that local manufacturing began to recover and grow. During this time manufacturing and agriculture were closely intertwined. Factories catered to what was produced on the land, and farmers relied on manufacturers to purchase their raw materials. Although some landowners continued the old tradition of running small mills for convenience and profit, growing numbers of commercial flour and gristmills were built in both the northern and southern sections of the county where wheat and corn were favored crops. In the northern section where tobacco was the major cash crop, tobacco factories sprang up; and in the south where cotton was the cash crop, textile factories were established.

As early as 1866 an editorial in the Hillsborough Recorder proclaimed "THE SOUTH MUST BECOME A MANUFACTURER", and predicted,

"If the time ever comes -as we hope it will before many years shall elapse-when Southern agriculture shall reach that high point of development of which it is capable--when the Southern staple of corn, wheat, rice, sugar, tobacco, and those numerous other products to which our soil is adapted, shall be produced in the abundance so easily attainable under an adequate labor system and a judicious management--a new occupation, scarcely less profitable than agriculture, will be opened to us-manufactures." The writer recalled that, "Hitherto our planters and farmers have been in the habit of investing the profits of agriculture in negroes and lands," and observed, " The abolition of slavery has rendered the former mode of investment of capital impossible and that renders further investment in land undesirable." He presented the challenge of the day: "How will, how should, the profits of agriculture be invested: Obviously in manufacturing facilities."

And, indeed, the abolition of slavery resulted in a tenancy system of agriculture which in turn contributed to the shift from subsistence farming to cash crop production after the Civil War. This in turn increased the demand for manufacturing establishments and manufactured goods in Orange County, as throughout the South.

That Orange County followed this regional trend toward manufacturing is evident, though much of this development took place not in Hillsborough but in the tobacco boom town of Durham, which had grown up at Durham's Station on the North Carolina Railroad, and was part of Orange County until the founding of Durham County in 1881. In 1860 Orange County had 61 manufacturing establishments with capital of $185,943, value of products $336,846, and 216 employees. By 1870 the number of manufacturing establishments had increased to 92 with capital of $201,857, value of products, $420,907, and 277 male employees, and 39 female. Some of these manufacturing establishments in Orange County were small, family owned mills supplying the needs of local residents. But other establishments including saw mills, cotton gins, tobacco factories, tanneries, wool carding, foundries, blacksmiths, carriage and wagon shops, and cabinet manufacturers existed in and around Hillsborough and Durham.9

CHANGES AROUND THE TURN OF THE CENTURY: 1880-1913

The small industries and manufacturing establishments in Orange County in the 1880s and 1890s were to some extent a continuation of the trends and developments of the late 1860s and 1870s. These

industries continued to grow and served as support systems to the predominately agricultural nature of the area. But the mills were becoming more commercial and serving larger populations than their predecessors ten or fifteen years earlier. By 1880 six flour and gristmills were operating twelve months a year in Cedar Grove Township alone. Back, Eno, and Lynch creeks, as well as the Eno River and the south fork of the Little River were the locations of mills that custom-ground grain for farmers. Four lumber and sawmills were located in Cedar Grove operating only five months of the year. There was one brick yard run by W.R. Hughes, which operated only two months of the year but produced 100,000 common bricks. Two tobacco factories were operating in Cedar Grove Township according to the 1880 manufacturing census.

Five flour and gristmills and six lumber and sawmills were located throughout Bingham Township in the southern section of the county along the Cane, Morgan, Tom and Turkey creeks. The flour and gristmills ran full time twelve months of the year and the lumber and sawmills ran full time four months of the year. Two cotton gins, both located on Cane Creek were in operation during this time.10

This expansion of manufacturing establishments following the Civil War resulted in the construction of numerous associated structures. The majority of these structures, flour, grist, or sawmills, were located along the streams and rivers of Orange County. Although most of the mills have been demolished, evidence of these early enterprises now exists as foundations, mill races or a jumble of stones along streams.

CROSSROADS AND COMMUNITY: 1880-1900

By 1880 Orange County was experiencing an economic recovery and general prosperity. The population had risen from 17,507 in 1870 to 23,698 in 1880.11 The number of improved acres had risen from 73,745 in 1870 to 86,401 in 1880.12 The value of manufactured goods was on the rise also and by 1880 was nearly as high as that of agricultural products: $1,2 million as compared to $1,8 million.13

Growing prosperity facing Orange County combined with the increase in population and manufacturing establishments, as well as the decrease in subsistence farming, all contributed to the growth of crossroad communities. Whereas the local country store previously had provided the farmer with the few goods not grown or manufactured on the farm, the decline of the self-sufficient farm increased the need for a variety of merchandise, services, and products. Moreover, the country store merchant often served as the chief source of credit--using the crop-lien system to enable farmers (owners and tenants) to buy seed, fertilizer, and other supplies against the upcoming crops. Thus encouraged, there was an increase in the diversity of enterprises such as stores, mills, and small factories, in rural Orange County. These were accompanied by a rise in the number of schools, churches, and post offices throughout the county.

By the late nineteenth century a number of these crossroad communities flourished. In Cedar Grove Township, they included Laws, Five Forks, Border and Cedar Grove. In 1890, Laws, located in the far northeastern section of Cedar Grove, had a population of twenty-five persons and a post office in a small country store run by J. Laws.

earby stood Walnut Grove Methodist Church, Sartain School, G.W. arker's saw mill, and Hawkin's flour and grist mill. The village of order, with a population of twenty, included such institutions as a ill, small store, and post office run by J. McAdams.14 In 1891, he crossroads known as Five Forks rivaled Cedar Grove as the most opulated area in the township. Situated within the vicinity of Five orks were Allen's flour and gristmill and Sharp's sawmill. A Dr. urphy lived at the fork of Yanceyville Road and Prospect Hill Road nd may have run a country store in addition to being the local hysician. Riley School, Harmony Primitive Baptist Church and Mt. ion Church were located between the Border Post Office and Five Forks rossroads. Cedar Grove, the largest village in the township with ixty-five persons, had the highest concentration of institutions and usinesses, including Cedar Grove Academy and Cedar Grove Methodist hurch, and nearby Eno Presbyterian Church, Compton's Mill, and arren's Mill. A Dr. Terrell resided in Cedar Grove, as did a tanner, arriage maker and repairer and a dry goods merchant (Manufacturing ensus, 1880, 1890, Tate Map, 1891).15

The flourishing rural communities in Little River Township ncluded Meridith and Caldwell Institute. Located at Meridith, with a opulation of thirty, were the Riley and McKee sawmill, and Berry's rove Baptist Church. With a population of one hundred nineteen, aldwell Institute boasted Caldwell Institute (a private academy), wo country stores, Allison's carriage shop, a blacksmith, and doctor, s well as Turner's flour mill, and Little River Presbyterian hurch.16 All these small communities prospered because of the

growing need for commercial establishments which went hand in hand with the decrease in subsistence farming and increase in cash crop farming and manufacturing in the late nineteenth century.

Although in some cases still existing as placenames, rural crossroads in present day Orange County retain little physical evidence attesting to their former existence. The structures that housed stores, schools, post offices, or churches, rarely survived into the twentieth century. The one exception is Cedar Grove where two nineteenth century stores (one still operating) and numerous houses still stand.

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries while agriculture persisted as rural Orange County's economic mainstay the railroad, mills, and factories brought new life to its towns. The most dramatic rise in industry and urbanization in Orange County began as a small stop on the railroad, Durham's Station. In 1858 Robert Morris opened a small tobacco factory in Durham. By the late 1870s five warehouses and several factories had been constructed to meet the growing demand for smoking and chewing tobacco. With the growth of industry came a rise in the population of Durham and subsequently a rise in the number of houses, churches, schools, and stores. The growth of Durham resulted in a move for independence in the surrounding area, and in 1881 Durham County was created from parts of Orange and Wake and a small part of Granville County.17

Although the rest of Orange County did not urbanize with the magnitude of Durham, other small communities along the railroad tracks experienced a population growth and soon became centers of commercial

ctivity. Efland was one such community that evolved in the late ineteenth and early twentieth century. Prior to the arrival of the orth Carolina Railroad in the mid nineteenth century, Efland, a small ommunity since the early nineteenth century, had one flour mill. In 906 an excelsior plant was established on the railroad line, soon ollowed a hosiery factory in 1912.18

In addition to the established communities which expanded with he coming of the railroad, Mebane, University Station, and Carrboro ere born of the railroad. Mebane, partly in Orange but mostly in lamance County, came into existence as a railroad village in 1854. y the early twentieth century Mebane was the center of a small but hriving industrial community, home to White Furniture Company--a ajor industry until the 1990s--Mebane Bedding Company, and Rockfish-ebane Yarn Mills.19

University Station began its unique history when owners of land ear the North Carolina Railroad soon realized its potential for ndustrial and community development. In 1856 Calvin G. Strayhorn ffered for sale "...twenty lots, containing one half acre each. The ituation is a very good one, lying immediately on Stone's Creek, and he Railroad Company having established a permanent depot there, all rade for Chapel Hill and that part of Orange will be conducted hrough the University Station. A Town will be built there, and a ine opportunity is now offered to secure a lot".20

ut University Station never amounted to much more than a stop for tudents on their way to and from the University of North Carolina in hapel Hill. By 1890 there were no industries, and only twenty-five esidents of University Station, all probably involved in farming.21

Established somewhat later than Mebane or University Station, arrboro (originally called Venable), was born as an extension of the

ailroad. In 1882 a ten mile spur road was laid south from University Station to one mile west of The University of North Carolina. A small ettlement grew up around the depot, but Carrboro's development did not begin until the later in the nineteenth century with the opening f a cotton mill by Tom Lloyd in 1898.22

Chapel Hill, a stable university town, did not respond to the coming of the Railroad or the increase in manufacturing or industry in he late nineteenth century as did most of the rest of the County. With professional jobs and retail business as the basis of Chapel ill's economy industry and manufacturing establishments did not evelop in Chapel Hill. Similar to Chapel Hill, Hillsborough was a town of professionals. In addition to lawyers, planters made up a arge percentage of its population. Although Hillsborough did have a tobacco market in 1871, the town did not attract the industry that its eighbor, Durham did. As a consequence its population was stable hroughout the late nineteenth century; with a population of 582 in 1850 and 707 in 1900.23

CHURCHES IN THE LATE NINETEENTH AND EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURIES

The church congregations that formed in the 18th century and early nineteenth century in Orange County continued throughout the ate nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and most of them regularly expanded or rebuilt their churches. Eno Presbyterian hurch, organized in 1755, exemplifies the process. Originally located two miles southeast of Cedar Grove, the Eno Presbyterian

congregation moved to its present location in Cedar Grove in 1890 and erected a frame church. In the mid twentieth century, the congregation covered the frame in brick veneer and erected an addition. Bethel Baptist Church in northeast Orange County was organized in 1851 but the present church dates to 1900.

Several new congregations also formed after the Civil War. Carr United Methodist Church in Cedar Grove Township was organized in 1913 and the present building was built in 1916. Prior to the Civil War, African-Americans generally worshipped in the churches of their owners. After the Civil War numerous African-American congregations were formed and within a few years built their own churches in Orange County. Churches still standing include Lattisville Grove Baptist, Lee's Chapel Baptist organized in 1893, and Harvey's Chapel AME organized in 1903. African-American churches exhibit the same rebuilding and expansion as the predominantly white churches.

EDUCATION: 1865-1900

Reconstruction brought many changes to the public school system in Orange County. The state constitution of 1868 provided for the running of the county government by commissioners, who were given control of the schools. The constitution also called for a minimum four-month school term, the appropriation of $100,000 for support of schools, and separate schools for the races. Throughout the late 19th century, education in Orange County as in the rest of the state and the South struggled to recover from the effects of the Civil War and economic hardships that ensued. The county had fifty-two school

districts with both black and white schools being funded by the county; consistently the black schools received less funding. During this period schoolhouses were almost equally log and frame, and the average length of the school year was ten weeks.24

The early twentieth century brought a dramatic increase in the interest in education in North Carolina. This was due in large part to Governor Charles Aycock who promoted extensive improvements in the public education system of North Carolina.25 In 1907 the establishment of rural high schools allowed many Orange County children an opportunity for higher education. By 1910 special taxes for education were being collected in six districts, Mebane, Fairfield, Efland, West Chapel Hill and University. There were other signs of increased interest in education. Between 1900 and 1910 the number of rural libraries grew from zero to forty, and the average length of the school term for whites and blacks increased from seventy to eighty-nine days and sixty-five to eighty-two days respectively. Of the many late nineteenth and early twentieth century schools built in the County, only a few still stand much changed by time. Two dilapidated one-room field schools, Breeze School for white students and Jordan Grove for blacks are located in northern Orange County. Gravelly Hill School in the White Cross area and Foxes Knob School in the Mebane area are one-room schools that were converted to residences.26

NEW HIGHWAYS: 1890-1930

By the close of the nineteenth century, roads in Orange County still consisted of dirt roads and farm paths. In 1891 the county enacted a tax for the purpose of public road construction and repair, but it was repealed after two years with little accomplished.27 With the introduction of the Federal Rural Free Delivery service of the mail in 1896 attention was drawn to the conditions of the roads throughout North Carolina.28 Between 1900 and 1903 all seven townships in Orange County levied a special road tax. But with the growing popularity of the automobile it became obvious that townships were not financially equipped to build and maintain suitable roads. County support was imperative if the roads throughout Orange County were to meet the demands of the automobile age. In 1911, $250,000 in bonds were issued for road improvement. Following the state's lead, which in 1902 formed the North Carolina Good Roads Association, in 1912 Orange County elected nine members, two from Chapel Hill and Hillsborough Townships and one from each of the other five, for a "good roads commission." This commission was to administer the $250,000 and determine what roads needed improvement in each township. In 1915 the township system of administration, and the "goods roads commission" was abolished and a county road superintendent was elected. In 1917 Orange County had thirty-seven miles of central highways, sixty-two miles of improved, and 365 miles of unimproved roads.29

By the 1920s counties throughout the state could not keep up with the ever increasing demand for better roads. In addition to automobiles, gasoline-powered farm equipment such as the tractor put

heavier and heavier demands on the roads throughout agricultural Orange County. An Orange County resident, the "Mother of Good Roads in North Carolina," Hattie Morehead Berry of Hillsborough, played a key role in planning and securing legislation for a state road building program with a modern system of highways and roads passable in all weather the ultimate goal.30 During the Depression, in the 1930s the State took over maintenance of almost all roads in North Carolina, thus lifting this ever increasing burden from the county.31

TWENTIETH CENTURY ORANGE COUNTY

After the turn of the century, Orange County reflected state-wide trends as the automobile and improved means of transportation and communication brought significant changes in the lives of North Carolinians. After 1900, there was an increase in both the rural and urban population. Among those who remained on the farm cash crop farming continued but diversified farming gained new popularity. And industry underwent major changes as manufacturers moved from the rural areas to the cities.

Despite the trend toward urbanization in the early decades of the twentieth century, Orange County remained predominantly rural: in 1930 the population was approximately eighty-seven percent rural. Taken separately, statistics for the black population of Orange County showed a slightly different trend. In 1930 67.5 percent of black residents were living in the cities while 32.5 percent remained in rural areas.32 Tenant farming continued to be a way of life for many white and black farmers. In 1925 only nine states had a higher tenancy rate than North Carolina, but Orange County was starting to show a drop in the number of tenant farms, from 765 in 1920 to 528 in 1950.33

The trouble the farmers of Orange County faced because of the agricultural depression of the late 1920s and the Great Depression of the 1930s echoed the problems of the rest of the state and much of the country. Cotton farmers were hit especially hard, after having experienced boom times in the 1910s when

cotton sold at more than thirty cents a pound, when cotton prices dropped to 25 cents and finally to 10 cents by 1932. In addition to depressed prices, the boll weevil was also devastating to Orange County cotton farmers in the 1920s. Tobacco farmers suffered when prices dropped from twenty-six cents per pound in 1926 to twelve cents by 1932.34

During the depression, with the low prices brought by cash crops such as tobacco and cotton, many small farmers turned to dairy products, cattle, poultry, and truck farming as sources of cash. A number of government programs supported the farmers in their effort to diversify. The Agricultural Extension Agency, established in 1912, encouraged scientific farming methods and a move from row crops, except tobacco, to small grains, grasses, and livestock. In 1930 with the creation of the Farmers Exchange, Inc. in Orange and nearby counties, diversified farming was further encouraged. This cooperative association marketed the farmers produce and secured inexpensive farm supplies. In addition to advocating diversified farming these agricultural programs taught farmers better ways to manage their land and introduced them to new crops.35

By the mid-twentieth century tobacco was still Orange County's biggest money crop with 4,791 acres in production yielding an average price of fifty-four cents. Cotton on the other hand continued to drop in production and by 1940 only 170 acres were cultivated.36 Dairy products provided the second largest source of income and poultry products the third largest. 200 farm families raised swine. With this increase in livestock came an increase in pastures and hay

crops. While farming practices and products varied over the centuries, the small farm has remained the mainstay of Orange County agriculture.37

Manufacturing establishments which opened in the twentieth century responded to and encouraged the changing face of agriculture in Orange County. In the mid twentieth century, a small milk plant was built by Latta Cooperative Dairy in Hillsborough and a larger plant was built by Farmers Cooperative Dairy, Inc. in Chapel Hill. Eventually the two plants merged. These plants provided a market for the milk produced by Orange County farmers. In 1937, in response to the developing cattle and swine operations in the county the Piedmont Packing Company was established at Kennedy, approximately five miles north of Hillsborough and employed forth persons.38

By 1910 North Carolina was becoming urbanized faster than thirty-six other states. The trend was accelerated by the development of industries, falling crop prices, and the impact of World War I.39 In Orange County, the area around Chapel Hill faced the fastest urban and suburban growth in response to these factors coupled with the expansion of the University of North Carolina and the accompanying population growth, among educators, professionals, and support services.

As urban areas gained in population, rural Orange County experienced a decline. From 1930 to 1950 the rural population dropped from approximately eighty-seven percent to seventy-three percent, though both areas actually grew, as the total population rose from 21,171 to 34,435. Some rural crossroad communities remained viable in

the twentieth century, while others faded away. Most of the twentieth century crossroads had their roots in the nineteenth century. While the focus of the nineteenth century crossroad was a small country store, in the twentieth century because of the increasing popularity of the automobile it was the service station, typically adapted from the country store. Laws and Cedar Grove exemplify different patterns in the evolution of the crossroads and surrounding community. At Laws crossroads, the late nineteenth century country store was abandoned in the early twentieth century and a service station with a drive-through for automobiles was built across the street. In Cedar Grove, by contrast the 1890s crossroads store still operates. The community, like several others retain a strong identity as a community. The move from rural to city life, the decline of rural manufacturers, improved roads, and increasing availability of the automobile to permit easy access to urban markets all contributed to the decline in the crossroad community.

The consolidation of schools was likewise encouraged by the growing use of the automobile. The automobile and school bus allowed larger school districts to be created because going longer distances to school became feasible. The move to combine several small schools into one larger school offered better libraries and more diversified classes. In spite of the desire for consolidation, as late as 1925 there were twenty-one one-teacher white and several one-teacher black schools in Orange County.40

The trend in the last few decades of city dwellers moving to the country has resulted in urban working families living next door to

farming families. This urban population living in rural Orange County can play a vital role in its future architectural heritage. The love of "old houses", one of the reasons people live in the country, can be invaluable in protecting the historic resources and agricultural landscape through the restoration of historic houses and the desire to have open spaces. But as the towns of Orange County continue to grow suburbanization increasingly threatens the agricultural history of Orange County. But in spite of the increasing number of non-farmers to rural areas, Orange County still has an agriculturally based economy. In 1991 farm income totalled over $29 million. And as it has been periodically throughout the decades, in 1991 tobacco was the major source of crop income in the county.41

1. William S. Powell, North Carolina through Four Centuries, 415-418.

2.Eighth Census of the United States, 1860: Orange County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule.

3. William S. Powell, North Carolina Through Four Centuries, 416-418.

4.Ninth Census of the United States, 1870:Orange County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule.

5. Eighth and Ninth Census of the United States, 1860 and 1870: Orange County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule.

6. William S. Powell, North Carolina Through Four Centuries, 315-317.

7. Eleventh Census of the United States, 1890: Orange County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule.

8.Eleventh Census of the United States, 1890: Orange County, North Carolina, Population Schedule.

9. Eighth and Ninth Census of the United States, 1860 and 1870: Orange County, North Carolina, Industry Schedule.

10. Tenth Census of the United States, 1880: Orange County, North Carolina, Manufacturing Schedule.

11. Tenth Census of the United States, 1880: Orange County, North Carolina, Population Schedule.

12. Tenth Census of the United States, 1880: Orange County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule.

13. Tenth Census of the United States, 1880: Orange County, North Carolina, Manufacturing Schedule.

14. Tenth and Eleventh Census of the United States, 1880 and 1890: Orange County, North Carolina, Manufacturing Schedule.

15. Tate Map. 1891.

16.Tate Map, 1891.

17. Jean Anderson, Durham County, 165-169.

18. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 278.

19. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 278-280.

20. Hillsborough Recorder, May 21, 1856.

21. Branson's Directory, 1890.

22. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 282-283.

23. Allen W. Trelease, The North Carolina Railroad 1849-1871 and the Modernization of North Carolina, (Chapel Hill and London: The University of North Carolina Press, 1991), 339.

24.Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 138-140.

25. William S. Powell, North Carolina Through Four Centuries, 419.

26. Irene Oliver Pender, A History of Orange County Schools: 1732-1983, 22-31.

27.Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 201-202.

28. Waynick, 1952 29.

29. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 206-209.

30. William S. Powell, North Carolina Through Four Centuries, 470-472.

31.Harden, 1966 9

32.County Population Trends

33. Branson, E.C. "Social Occasions and Contacts in a Rural County", Journal of Social Forces (November 1922-September 1923):37.

34. John L. Bell Jr., Hard Times: Beginnings of the Great Depression in North Carolina, 1929-1933 (Raleigh: North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1982),5-11.

35. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 213, 245-246.

36. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 235.

37. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952, 235-245.

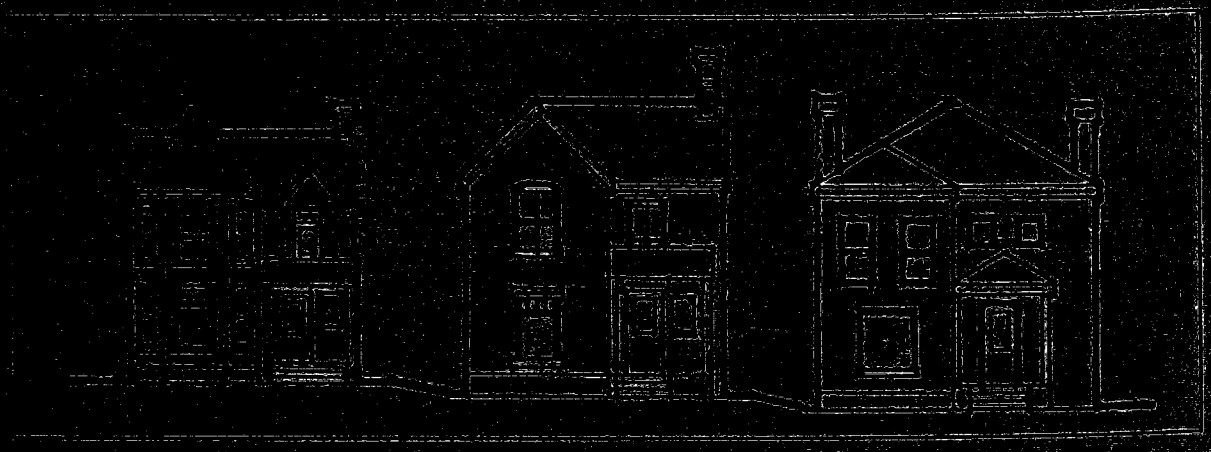
38. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, Orange County 1752-1952,242, 276-277.

39. University of North Carolina Extension Bulletin, 1921, 23.

40. William S. Powell, North Carolina Through Four Centuries, 447.

41. Orange County Agricultural Extension Bulletin, 1991.

Architectural Trends



FOREWARD

A basic conservatism, fostered by the challenges faced by early settlers in piedmont North Carolina, found expression in the built environment. Throughout the nineteenth century the economic and social situation of rural Orange County residents remained much as it had during the previous century. This allowed a conservative ideal to take such deep root that even the progress and prosperity advancing through the South with the coming of the railroad and industrialization could not break its tenacious hold. The conservative and thrifty nature of Orange County residents is eloquently evident in the building patterns. As families grew, the first generations small, utilitarian houses were often enlarged by subsequent generations. Typically, the popular architectural styles, of each period were expressed chiefly in details and elements added to an existing structure rather than in ground-up construction of a high-style house. Not only can these patterns be seen in the county's houses but in the churches which scatter the countryside, the small country stores which dominate picturesque rural crossroad settlements, and the agrarian landscapes of the county's numerous farmsteads. This has been the pattern of life and architecture in Orange County.

PRE-CIVIL WAR TRADITIONAL ARCHITECTURE

The origins of vernacular architecture in Orange County are deeply rooted in two building traditions. The first derives from Pennsylvania where a favored method of construction was of log. Used by the Swedes in the seventeenth century and later by the Germans in early eighteenth century Pennsylvania, log building quickly became one of the most popular construction methods in the country. Two important factors leading to its popularity were the vast stands of timber available and the comparative speed with which a log shelter could be erected. Other ethnic groups who settled in the mid-Atlantic region, such as English and Scots-Irish, also adopted this construction method to meet their immediate need for housing. As settlers moved south into piedmont North Carolina, they brought with them this log building tradition. Typically, in Orange County as in other Piedmont counties, these early log dwellings were built on a one or two-room plan, sometimes with a loft and a rear lean-to providing additional chambers. Commonly a large stone chimney was built on one side of the house. Log houses, along with log barns and other outbuildings, remained popular throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in Orange County.

The second factor that influenced early construction methods in Orange County as well as the rest of the Piedmont has its origins

in the Anglo-American colonies of the Tidewater area of Virginia and Maryland. Colonists in these regions favored hewn frame construction, covered with weatherboards, a tradition that gradually spread as settlers moved westward from the Tidewater area. Typically, these heavy framed dwellings were built on a one-room plan with loft or a two-room--hall-and-parlor--plan, likewise with a loft or sleeping chamber above.

When settlers from Pennsylvania and Tidewater Virginia immigrated in the 1740s to the region that was to become Orange County, they brought with them the knowledge, skills, and tools necessary to establish small farms, build houses, and till the land. They did not rely on formal architectural plans or patterns books for their buildings but drew upon regional traditions (Southern, 1978). The priority of the settlers was the formidable task of clearing the forest for farming: hence, their dwellings were frequently small and quickly constructed. None of these pioneer houses is known to have survived. In a pattern prevalent throughout the state the earliest houses which have stood the test of time, embody second and third generations of buildings and date from the very late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.1

1Catherine Bishir and Charlotte V. Grown, et. al., Architects and builders in North Carolina: A History of the Practice of Building. Chapel Hill and London: The North Carolina Press, 1990.

PRE-CIVIL WAR DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE

Log houses

The log building tradition in Orange County, as in other Piedmont counties, is one of the most striking aspects of the vernacular architectural landscape. Beginning with the area's first settlers in the mid-eighteenth century and extending well into the twentieth century, log construction flourished and was the primary means of building for the modest yeoman farmer. Log building techniques were utilized by every cultural group that inhabited Orange County, including the English, Scots, Scotch-Irish, German, and African farmers.2

The heavily forested territory that was to become Orange County offered early settlers virtually unlimited supplies of timber. Large stands of oak, hickory, pine, and poplar afforded a wide variety of trees from which to choose. When constructing a house however, many builders preferred to work either with a single type or at most two, using a hardwood such as oak on the first floor and pine or another softwood on the upper story.

Log houses were an especially desirable type of dwelling for early settlers because of the speed with which they could be

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2Catherine Bishir, North Carolina Architecture. Chapel Hill and London: The University of North Carolina Press, 1990.

constructed, and because they could be built without using nails and other manufactured goods which were scarce and costly. Often, the building of a log house was a community undertaking, and if help was available, such a house could be erected in a day's time (Ward and Daniel, 1993 p.2) Some log houses were built for temporary housing until the family could afford the time and money to construct a larger or better-crafted log or frame dwelling. Typically, settlers erected these temporary log houses out of unhewn, round logs joined at the corners with overlapping saddle notches. The axe-cut ends projected irregularly from the notching joints which often times led to water retention and then to wood rot. To build a more durable structure, workmen hewed logs square to raise smooth walls, and joined the logs at the corners by one of several prevalent notching methods--in Orange County these included dovetail, half-dovetail and V-notches. These more substantially constructed houses remained in primary use for extended periods.

Orange County's earliest standing log houses which date from the early nineteenth century represent floor plans derived from English and Scotch-Irish settlers. The most common plans had a single pen (log unit) containing a loft or half-story above, reached in the earlier houses by a ladder and later by an enclosed or semi-enclosed staircase. Stairways were nearly always enclosed to prevent the heat from downstairs from escaping to the loft. The original one-room log section of the Rosie

Wrenn House (ca. 1840) in Cedar Grove Township features a small interior door in the ceiling through which a ladder led to the loft above. Most of the log houses in Orange County are built on this simple single-pen, one-room plan, generally rectangular in plan with wall measurements ranging from sixteen to twenty-two feet. In the one-room log section of the Joseph Smith House near Hillsborough an enclosed staircase leads to a sleeping loft. Larger single-pen log houses were sometimes partitioned into two rooms of unequal size. At the Taylor House (ca. 1850), the larger of the two rooms has the front door as well as the fireplace while the smaller room was probably used for sleeping quarters.

Although sometimes exhibiting simple Georgian or Federal stylistic details, Orange County's early nineteenth century log houses are generally simply finished and essentially devoid of ornamentation. These one-room dwellings were dominated by large fireplaces; mantels were generally built in place, and consisted of narrow planks that covered the joint between the stone fireplace and the wood. Log walls were sometimes left exposed and whitewashed but more commonly sheathed in thin handplaned boards. Roofs were covered with hand-split shingles or, in simpler structures, slabs. Chimneys on antebellum log houses usually stood on the exterior end side of the house and were constructed of stone or a combination of stone and brick.

Although not as common in Orange County as in some piedmont counties, some single-pen log houses were later expanded with an additional room. This addition could be attached on the non-chimney side, "saddlebag" style, so that the two parts shared the common chimney. Also rare in Orange County is the "dogtrot" type of log house where the second room shares a roof with the original structure but a breezeway separates the two. Typically, each gable end of this type possessed a chimney. There is only one known "dogtrot" log house in the county. The breezeway has been enclosed. By far the most common practice in Orange County was to build an additional log room to the rear of the house connected by a covered breezeway. Significant examples of this can be seen at the Reilly Log House (NRSL) where a small log room extends from the rear of the house,and the Miller Log House (NRSL) where this second room served as the kitchen and has an eight-foot-wide stone chimney.

Another popular log house type in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries was the "Quaker" or "continental" plan. Characteristic of many Piedmont houses of this period, the "Quaker" plan utilized a three room configuration. The most significant example of this type is found at the Paisley-Rice Log House (NR) in western Orange County. Built for prominent Presbyterian minister William D. Paisley in the early nineteenth century, the house embodies unusually fine log construction, combined with handsome interior details of late Georgian

character.

Although considerable variation may have existed among these early log houses, the remaining examples exhibit little deviation from the common plans. Across the county, the majority of extant antebellum log houses are simple one-room, one-and-a-half story dwellings with one large exterior chimney.

BRICK AND FRAME HOUSES

While log construction flourished from the late eighteenth century through the decades prior to the Civil War, there are also some notable examples of brick and frame houses from this period. Though rare in antebellum Orange County, brick construction was employed in at least two notable houses. Ayr Mount, built in 1814-1817, was the home of prosperous merchant and planter William Kirkland and his wife Margaret. Kirkland, a native Scot, hired bricklayer William Collier to build the large house on his plantation, which lay along the Eno River near Hillsborough. The main block of the dwelling, a two-story, side-gable square structure is flanked by two one-story wings, which form a three-part, Palladian-inspired composition reflecting fashions of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The highly unusual plan features a transverse hall across the main block, with two rooms to the rear, and a room in each wing. The house presents a remarkable blend of stylistically

conservative, finely crafted brickwork and extremely handsome woodwork of transitional Georgian to Federal character--the work of Raleigh carpenters John J. Briggs and (probably) Elhannon Nutt.3

Due to its similarity in three-part form and brick construction to Kirkland's Ayr Mount, the brick house built by the Faucett family in the 1830s is known as Little Ayr Mount. Also located on the banks of the Eno River, Little Ayr Mount is a two-story, side-gable house flanked on each gable end by a one-story brick wing, but it follows a familiar center-passage plan and has simple Federal finish. Constructed by the county's most prosperous citizens and highly atypical of the general architectural trends of this era, these houses are the two chief examples of Federal style brick architecture in Orange County.

Among the county's pre-Civil War frame houses, one of the earliest, Moorefields, likewise follows a formal three-part plan. The relatively small frame dwelling is traditionally dated 1785, and is believed to have been built as a summer home for prominent Wilmington attorney and planter Alfred Moore. Here as at Ayr Mount, a side-gable main block is flanked by one-story wings, but at Moorefields the plan of the main block has a side passage and a single large parlor. The house is handsomely finished with late Georgian and early Federal woodwork typical of the late

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3Bishir, North Carolina Architecture.

eighteenth century and early nineteenth century. Like Ayr Mount, too, Moorefields stands near the county seat of Hillsborough, and like it in its form, plan, and finish, the house reflects the tastes and wealth of a well-traveled and relatively sophisticated owner. Such houses, along with their contemporaries in Hillsborough, stood in contrast to the predominantly simple, traditional architecture that characterized most of the rural county.

Like log houses, the majority of frame houses constructed in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries were modest dwellings, seldom larger than two main rooms with a loft above. All possess frames of hewn timbers, mortised and tenoned, and joined together with wooden pegs. This heavy timber frame method of construction continued in Orange County until after the Civil War, when lighter balloon framing gradually supplanted it. Especially common among the county's frame houses was the hall-and-parlor plan, which offered a more comfortable and spacious form than a one-room plan. Hall-and-parlor houses in Orange County generally had two exterior end chimneys. Such houses were generally entered through the larger room or hall, from which an enclosed stair led to the sleeping loft. The hall, used for visiting, dining, and often cooking was the larger, main room while the parlor, used for sitting and and often for sleeping was typically smaller and was entered from the hall. The upstairs chambers served as sleeping quarters.

The Beasley House, believed to have built in the 1820s, is one of the county's best surviving examples of the hall-and-parlor plan frame house. Although altered and enlarged in the late nineteenth century, and stripped of most of its Federal era woodwork, the earliest portion of the one-and-a-half story house still retains its original floor plan. It appears that before enlargement the house featured a symmetrical three-bay facade, common among small antebellum Orange County houses.

The hall-and-parlor plan was also employed in two-story frame houses. The Lambert Hall House, ca. 1850, for example, stands a full two stories in height, and has two exterior end chimneys heating its hall-and-parlor plan rooms. Built by Hall as a wedding present to his bride, Elizabeth, the dwelling is conservative in style, as was typical of the substantial house built for the middle-class farmer in the county. The interior walls are sheathed in simple wide planks. A semi-enclosed staircase on the side wall of the parlor winds up to the full second story.

Relatively few antebellum houses in Orange County followed the more spacious center-passage plan of one or two rooms deep. One of the county's largest and best preserved antebellum frame houses is the Smith-Cole House in Chapel Hill Township. Built in 1845 by three Smith siblings, and once the center of a large plantation, the house shows a conservative continuation of the

late Federal style architecture. The ambitious double-pile, center-passage dwelling features molded cornice boards, raking cornices with pattern boards, and original classically-inspired porch posts. The interior is modest and unpretentious with a simple wainscot in the center passage, and simple post-and-lintel mantels.

One of the most ambitious antebellum frame residences, Mason Hall, near Mebane--now in a ruinous condition-- exemplifies the center-passage, double-pile plan in a large, two-and-a-half story structure with a one-and-a-half story wing at each end. Two massive exterior end brick chimneys, stuccoed to resemble masonry blocks, rise at each end of the main block. The interior, conservative in ornamentation, is well-finished with simple wainscotting and flush sheathing in the center-hall. Unfortunately, all of the eight mantels and all interior doors have been removed from the house. Obvious from ghost marks on the front and rear facades of the dwelling, there were once two one-story porches. Mason Hall is one of the most significant houses in Orange County, having connections to the Mebane family, as well as having served as an inn and focal point for the central western section of the county. According to an advertisement in the Hillsborough Recorder, the structure was built in 1820 and was known as Eagle Hotel.

As stated earlier, the earliest houses in the county were simple

utilitarian structures devoid of pretension and with minimal adornment. Occasionally exhibiting slight Georgian or Federal stylistic features, these houses were predominantly vernacular structures built by modest yeoman farmers. Gradually, beginning in the 1830s with the rise of the Greek Revival movement in architecture, hall-and-parlor plan houses began to give way to a more spacious floor plan--the center-hall. As popularized nationally in such architectural plan books such as Asher Benjamin's The Practical House Carpenter (1830), the Greek Revival style featured classically inspired broad forms and bold elements, such as pedimented porticoes, columns and pilasters. While Hillsborough contains several excellent examples of the academic style, most notably John Berry's Orange County Courthouse, the rural population of the county never adopted the Greek Revival style wholeheartedly. Rather, the conservative builders simply utilized elements of the style in their unpretentious, and functional dwellings. Typically these center-hall Greek Revival-influenced houses were built single pile; rectangular in form and one room deep with two rooms on each floor. The center-hall plan possess broader proportions than the hall-and-parlor plan houses of the previous decades. Breezes were funneled through it, and in summer the hall was likely to be the coolest area in the house. Orange County builders incorporated Greek Revival elements into these rather simple, mid-nineteenth structures, such as lower pitched roofs, larger windows--with six-over-six or nine-over-nine sash, window and

door surrounds with decorative blocks at the corners, doors with two vertical panels, full-facade porches with stout columns or pillars (usually one-story in Orange County), and sidelights and transoms flanking the front door which was often a two-leaf double door.

The county has a number of conservative frame houses with restrained Greek Revival details. The William Maynard Farm in Bingham Township contains one of the most intact antebellum frame farmhouses in the county. Built in 1857 by brick mason and farmer William Maynard, the double-pile, one-and-a-half story, Greek Revival house features nine-over-six sash windows, a double-leaf front door, a generously proportioned center passage, and original post and lintel mantels. The house is typical in that rather than exemplifying an academic version of the Greek Revival, it incorporates elements of the style into its conservative form and plan.

Similarly, the Nelson Hall House (ca. 1850s) in the Little River Township features hints of the Greek Revival influence, including side-lights and transom around the front door. The simple, side-gable, two-story frame house is likewise characteristically traditional in form and conservative in style.

Although altered in the 1880s, the Tally Homeplace in extreme northern Orange County retains its original ca. 1860 center-hall

configuration. The staircase is of special note. The elegantly curved and tapered newel post is reminiscent of woodwork by celebrated free black cabinetmaker Thomas Day who resided in nearby Caswell County. The original mantels in the two rooms downstairs were replaced in the 1880s with extravagant Victorian models with mirrored overmantels. Upstairs the original post and lintel mantels remain.

The original log section of the Piper-Dixon House located in Eno River State Park was built ca. 1820. In the mid-nineteenth century a highly atypical Greek Revival house was built on the site using the existing log house as a rear wing. The Piper-Dixon House has a raised basement, more typical of dwellings built in the eastern counties of the state.

Situated on the NE corner at Caldwell Crossroads is the Hamlin House. Built ca. 1850, the two-story, frame house features six-over-six sash windows, a double-leaf front door flanked by sidelights, and flush sheathing on the front facade. It was a common practice in the antebellum south to clad the wall sheltered by the porch with horizontal flush sheathing to give the impression that the porch was as equally well-finished as any interior room. With the onset of hot, humid summers, porches were often the places where residents prepared food, sewed, socialized, read, and sometimes slept.

By the 1860s other stylistic influences had begun to appear in the county. The Italianate style, a picturesque mode rooted in Renaissance design principles, was characterized by low sloping roofs with broad eaves, prominent porches, arched openings, and especially roof brackets punctuating the wider eaves. Also common to the style were elaborately carved door and window surrounds, floor to ceiling windows, and heavy, turned woodwork. As with the Greek Revival style, the rural builders of Orange County never adopted the Italianate vocabulary wholesale, preferring to integrate details of the style into their standard vernacular house types.

A pair of houses in Cedar Grove Township, almost identical, reflect this mild stylistic influence. Clearly the product of one builder, the Pitard House along with a nearby, unidentified dwelling exhibit subtle Italianate influences. Both houses possess two-tiered porches with arched, double-leaf front doors flanked by arched sidelights, low hipped roofs, and decorative crossetted window surrounds. Each is flanked by two end chimneys. Both houses, dating to about 1860, are built on the familiar center-hall plan. It was not until after the Civil War when manufactured decorative details could be readily bought that the Italianate style with its typical brackets came into vogue in the rural parts of the county.

FARM COMPLEXES AND OUTBUILDINGS IN PRE-CIVIL WAR ORANGE COUNTY

Traditionally, the defining architectural feature of rural Orange County has been the farmstead. An antebellum farm complex probably included many of the same elements found on post-Civil War farms. Typically, there was a main dwelling facing a road. In close proximity to the house were various domestic support buildings related to the running of the household. These could include a smokehouse for curing meats; a kitchen used for food preparation; a wash house; and a dairy used to store milk and butter. Situated farther away from the main house stood a corncrib; barns and stables to shelter crops and farm animals; and various sheds to store agricultural equipment.
Larger, more complex farms might also possess, mills, a distillery used for the making of liquors, or a loomhouse for the production of cloth and wool. Collectively, these buildings along with the main house defined the farmstead. Farm buildings of the nineteenth century were quite often built of logs, hewn or left round, and a few employed frame construction.

One striking difference between the antebellum farmstead and the post-Civil War farmstead was the presence of slave houses associated with the larger antebellum farms and plantations.
While there are no known surviving slave houses in the county, on most farms they were typically located close to the main house and constructed of logs. At the Nelson Hall and the Lambert Hall

farms in Little River slave dwellings once stood in clusters in close proximity to the main houses, according to local residents.

While the majority of antebellum houses in rural Orange County were part of farm complexes, few of the associated outbuildings survive. Generally, the support buildings associated with these early houses date to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The William Maynard farm in Bingham Township is the only site which retains more than one known antebellum outbuilding. A half-dovetailed log smokehouse, believed to have been built in 1859, stands directly to the rear of the main house. Although convenience was a major factor in the placement of most outbuildings, smokehouses were also built close to the main house for safety reasons--the residents did not want their meats stolen.

The Maynard Farm also retains a log kitchen, reputedly built in 1814 on a site a mile east and moved to its present location in 1857 for use as a kitchen. The one-room, one-and-a-half story kitchen stands approximately thirteen feet away from the larger frame house and was linked to it by a breezeway, which has been enclosed. Traditionally, kitchens were located apart from the main houses to prevent fires from spreading to the main dwelling. One massive exterior end stone and brick chimney rises from the eastern side of the building, serving a large cooking fireplace.

PUBLIC AND INSTITUTIONAL BUILDINGS

CHURCHES

The earliest churches in Orange County were usually constructed of log and served a few years or several decades until a larger and more substantial church could be built. For rural citizens, churches were a focal point of social interaction for the often isolated farmers. Thus, churches were often renovated or rebuilt to reflect changing economic conditions and growing congregations. Only two churches constructed in the rural county prior to the Civil War still stand, St. Mary's Chapel in Little River Township, and Fairfield Presbyterian Church in Cedar Grove Township.

The most ambitious of these churches is St. Mary's Episcopal Church (NR). Constructed in 1854, the chapel is a small but carefully finished brick structure in the Gothic Revival style. Although simple Gothic Revival country churches are relatively common in the state, this is one of the few antebellum rural brick examples and the only one in Orange County. The simplicity and small scale of the church, together with the substantialness of its materials and consistency of Gothic detail contribute to its pastoral charm. The rectangular building is three bays wide and three longer bays deep, with the entrance in the main gable end and an apse to the rear. Walls are of locally made bricks,

each typically measuring about 2 3/4 inches by 8 inches. Laid in common bond with Flemish variation. Brick buttresses separate each bay with a recessed lancet panel framing a pointed-arch window or door opening.to the gable ends. A wooden cross tops the gable end. Down the hill from the church is the stonewalled cemetery, site of the eighteenth century predecessor of the chapel, now filled with dozens of graves and shaded by mature trees.

Fairfield Presbyterian Church is a much simpler structure than St. Mary's Chapel. Constructed of wood in 1834, the building underwent substantial renovation in 1901 when the double-hung Gothic windows were added as well as the simple pointed-arched transom window above the front entrance. Originally, the church had small, square windows and two front doors. Church tradition holds that the church was organized by William Clarke. Other charter members came from the families on the western side of the Eno River. Among these founding families were the Wilkinsons, Faucettes, Tinnins, Armstrongs, and Hanners. Joseph Faucette donated the timber from his nearby farm for the church. The logs were sawn at Hall's Mill, approximately one mile east of the church. Slaves of congregation members planed the rough lumber by hand.

SCHOOLS

Although North Carolina passed a law in 1839 creating the public school system, the majority of Orange County's schools throughout the nineteenth century were small private academies supported by the wealthier farming families.4 Typically, antebellum school buildings, both private and public were of frame or log construction, and consisted of one or two rooms. According to local residents, several of these early schools may have been incorporated into later houses. Thus, it is sometimes difficult to identify an antebellum schoolhouse. Although no public schools built before the Civil War are intact, there are two significant former private academies remaining in the county.

Hughes Academy, founded in 1845 by Samuel Wellwood Hughes, was originally located at Cedar Grove but was moved to Hughes' property just south of Cedar Grove prior to the Civil War. The Academy was primarily a preparatory school for boys, although a few girls did attend classes. The curriculum consisted of English, Latin, Greek, and mathematics.5 This modest frame, side-gable building is two rooms divided by a central chimney and fireplace. The Hillsborough Historical Society has recently moved the building into Hillsborough with plans of restoring it.

4Irene Oliver Pender, A History of Orange County Schools: 1732-1983. Hillsborough: Shanklin's Press, 1983.

5Pender, A History of Orange County Schools, p. 13.

Another significant antebellum schoolhouse is Bingham School(NR) near the Oaks Community. Founded by Reverend William Bingham in the early nineteenth century, Bingham School was also principally a boys preparatory school. Originally started in Pittsboro around 1800, the school had many homes including Hillsborough, Mt. Repose, "Mebaneville", and Asheville. The school was located at Oaks from the 1840s to 1865. The building is an imposing two-story, double-pile, frame Greek Revival structure.

POST-CIVIL WAR TRADITIONAL AND INDUSTRIALIZED ARCHITECTURE

1865-1943

Introduction

In the decades following the Civil War, the vast majority of Orange County's domestic architecture continued to be built of traditional form and modest size. One striking change from antebellum patterns appeared in the quantity of decorative ornamentation applied to post-Civil War houses. During the last thirty years of the nineteenth century, ornate millwork grew ever readily more available to Orange County residents due to the expansion of the North Carolina Railroad and to advances in saw mill technology. Although a few communities in North Carolina had woodworking machines prior to the Civil War, such as the planer-matcher that made tongue and groove flooring, the last quarter of the nineteenth century brought an explosion of new machines including sanders, lathes, boring machines, and shapers. By the 1870s, the sash saw was rendered obsolete by the advent of the steam-powered circular saw. The millwork industry developed easily accessible architectural components such as moldings, doors, mantels, exterior sheathing, and gable adornments. Initially, these millwork products were tied to regional sources; local timber was cut and milled at nearby mills. As the railroad expanded and various new markets were opened, there was a profound yet gradual shift to national standardization of milled products. Responding to these advances in woodworking

technology, many more farmers as well as towns people adorned their frame houses with sawn and turned embellishments. 1

Other changes were also manifested in the county's late-nineteenth century buildings. Windows began to contain larger panes during this period. Gone were the small paned, nine-over-six, or six-over-six sash windows. Production of larger sheets of glass made it possible to install two-over-two and one-over-one sash windows. The majority of historic houses in the county are from this late-nineteenth century period.

Log Houses

In the late nineteenth century, log houses continued to be built in much the same manner as fifty or a hundred years earlier. These structures persisted as a popular basic house type for small-scale farmers and tenants, who would add an extra room as the family and fortune grew. The Reilly Log House near Rougemont is an especially fine example dating to the early 1870s. The V-notched log house features a one-room plan with a half story above. To the rear of the house is a room that is connected to

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1Carl Lounsbury, Alamance County Architectural Heritage. Alamance Historic Properties Commission, 1980.

the main house by a breezeway--a rare survival of a linking structure. The Sikes Log House began with a weatherboarded one-room plan circa 1870 but was expanded around 1900 by the addition of a frame rear ell. Typically, these additions housed the kitchen. By the turn of the century, with the advent and availability of cookstoves, kitchens were no longer being constructed apart from the main house but were being built within the house.

The countryside of Orange is literally dotted with these small, unpretentious, yet well constructed log houses of the late nineteenth century. There is little difference in construction methods between the early eighteenth century examples and the late nineteenth log houses, for many builders in Orange County relied on tried and true house types and plans when deciding upon a dwelling. The principal differences between the early log examples and the late-nineteenth century are found in chimney construction. When kitchens were incorporated into the house and woodstoves were introduced, chimneys became smaller.

Frame Houses

During the late nineteenth century, frame houses began to gain in popularity among the county's farmers. As mill technology advanced, the cheaper balloon framing method of construction replaced the heavy, labor-intensive mortise and tenon timber

frame method. The center-passage house plan continued and gained in popularity following the Civil War, although some hall-and-parlor houses were still being constructed. Generally, these late-nineteenth century houses were constructed one or two stories in height and one room deep with a center hall. A large rear ell, containing the kitchen and dining area, appears on most of these houses, forming a T-shape or L-shape. A one-story porch usually runs the length of the front facade.

Although traditional house plans and types persisted following the Civil War, the use of stylish ornamentation increased with the availability of milled lumber. During the 1870s and 1880s, decorative motifs reflected the popular Italianate style. The Hester Farmhouse, ca. 1870s, in northern Orange County epitomizes this trend. The carpenters erected a typical center-hall plan, I-house, to which they applied ornate eave brackets, decorative attic vents, crossetted window surrounds, and an exuberant two-tiered entrance portico with decorative sawn and turned woodwork.

The most elaborate late-nineteenth century dwelling in rural Orange County is the Dr. Archibald C. Jordan House near Caldwell, which was constructed in 1870 for a prominent pharmacist and physician. The two-story, center-hall plan, double-pile house features lavish Italianate details including paired, two-over-two sash arched windows, eaves brackets, and a double front door with

arched lights. The unaltered interior features unusually decorative diagonal sheathing on the walls, a beautifully carved, curved staircase, and different mantel treatments in each of the four main rooms. While the Jordan House represents rural Orange County's most elaborate late-nineteenth century residence, the house is nevertheless built on a traditional and basic house plan reflecting Orange County's penchant for the vernacular.

A smaller but emphatically stylish house was constructed ca. 1890 by William Woods McDade near Cedar Grove. This one-story frame house boasts an abundance of exuberant Victorian trim, including turned and sawn work on a large wraparound porch, decorative scrollwork in the gables, scalloped trim on the eaves and heavily adorned window and door surrounds.

One of the county's most ornate houses of this era was the country retreat of Durham industrialist Benjamin Duke. Built in 1891 at University Station, south of Hillsborough, at the terminus of a spur line of the North Carolina Railroad, the house was part of a large complex that once contained numerous picturesque outbuildings, bridges, a large pond, and an office. While most of the outbuildings no longer exist, the house is a well-maintained, double-pile structure with a wraparound, one-story porch with detailed turned work. While these houses are not examples of high style Victorian architecture, they nevertheless represent a growing preference in the latter decades

of the nineteenth century for elaborate ornamentation.

A universally popular trend in the period was the addition of a decorative center gable to the typical I-house. Rooted in the picturesque Gothic Revival cottage style popularized throughout the nation by books by Andrew Jackson Downing and others, the center gable was a vernacular and unpretentious adaptation of the style. Sometimes this roof feature was merely an update to an earlier house, but more often these center gables were built when the house was constructed. Often adorned with decorative shingles, I-houses with these so-called Triple-A rooflines stand throughout the county. In the 1870s and 1880s such homes were generally constructed with two exterior end chimneys, of stone and brick. Later in the nineteenth century, chimney orientation began to change with the chimneys located to the exterior rear of the house. Especially fine examples are the houses at the Phelps Farm, the Caine Roberts Farm, the Cass Farm, and the Walter Hawkins Farm. Each of these houses is a typical I-house with a center-hall plan, embellished with a decorative center gable.2

The practice of building or adding a central gable was not limited to two-story structures. Several excellent one-story and one-and-a-half story Triple-A houses exist in the county. The

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2 Michael Southern, "The I-House as a Carrier of Style in Three Counties of the Northeastern Piedmont", Carolina Dwelling. Doug Swaim, editor. Raleigh: North Carolina State University, 1978.

Ray House, the Annie Parrish House, and the Brown House are all one or one-and-a-half story examples. At the Ray House, the gable is adorned with decorative shingles while the center gable at the Brown House has simple weatherboards. The gables of three such houses in Orange County feature a star motif in the gable. Of unknown origin, this star motif can be found at the Tilley Farm, the Cass Farm, and the Poole Farm.

Another prominent, if less numerous house form of the late-nineteenth century is the one-story, double-pile house with a tall hipped or pyramidal roof and interior chimneys. These dwellings often contain features of Victorian era architecture. The circa 1900 James Wood House near Hillsborough, for example, combines a steeply pitched pyramidal roof with a full-length porch with turned posts, a simple balustrade, and decorative sawn work.

After the turn of the century, new house types began to gain popularity with the county's rural residents. An especially strong favorite was the Craftsman bungalow. Representing a proclivity for convenience, economy, and comfort, the Craftsman bungalow was typically built one-story in height, with very wide eaves, spacious porches, and horizontal lines. Porches were often supported by short tapered pillars or posts set on high brick piers. Entrance halls were generally eliminated in these houses. Most of the county's bungalows were of modest size and

featured an array of typical bungalow embellishments such as decorative eave brackets, tapered porch supports on brick piers, exposed rafter ends, and large dormer windows. The Scarborough House and the Cole House are typical examples of the style; both are frame with engaged porches and brackets.

Orange County has relatively few examples of other popular house styles of the early twentieth century. The Colonial Revival movement in architecture that was so popular in more urban areas never took substantial hold in the county but like the Greek Revival style of the previous century can be seen chiefly in details on modest houses. Typical Colonial Revival influences include large columned porches added to earlier houses, trabeated doorways, and dormer windows. At the Lloyd Dairy Farm near Efland, for example, a typical two-story I-house, features a large full-length two-story front porch added in the 1920s. Perhaps the most ambitious example of the Colonial Revival in Orange County was the Craig House--a two-story house with a monumental portico and two flanking wings--which has been destroyed by fire.

Farm Complexes and Outbuildings

The most characteristic feature of the landscape of Orange County is the farmstead. Practically all of the existing farm complexes in Orange County date from the last quarter of the nineteenth

century and the early years of the twentieth century. These middle-sized farms of this period repeated many patterns established in antebellum years. Kitchens, smokehouses, corncribs, privies, and storage sheds, continued to built regularly. One marked difference among the support buildings was the gradual shift from log construction to frame construction, except for tobacco barns, where log construction persisted into the mid-twentieth century. The Marvin Phelps Farm, north of Hillsborough, is a representative example of a late nineteenth century farm complex. The main house is a Triple-A I-house with a rear ell. Outbuildings on the property, arranged along a curvilinear farm road, include a frame smokehouse, a wellhouse, several log tobacco barns, feed barns, and a log tenant house.

Once the focal point of domestic farm life, the kitchen was still being built detached from the main house in the years following the Civil War. Typically located to the rear or side of the house, kitchens were usually one or two rooms with large exterior end chimneys. In addition to providing a place for food preparation, the kitchen could have also served as a dining room and extra sleeping quarters. The Hester Farm has a large one-room log kitchen sheathed in weatherboards, located directly behind the main house. According to a descendent of the original owners, the male children would sleep in its half-story loft.

Smokehouses continued to be built on most farms, for the curing

and storing of meat. Usually located close to the mainhouse for convenience as well as safety, the smokehouse was typically a small, front gable frame or log structure, most often sheathed in weatherboards or, less frequently, stuccoed. Corncribs, likewise an essential outbuilding, to store corn for household and livestock consumption, were rectangular structures with gaps between sheathing to allow air to circulate. An excellent example of a frame, double corncrib is found at the Miller-Kirkland Farm. A covered space separating the two cribs was built large enough to allow room for a wagon or truck to load or unload a cargo of corn.

Barns varied in their size and method of construction according to their purpose. Many in the county date from the late nineteenth and especially the early centuries. Feed barns for livestock and hay storage are generally large, frame, gambrel, or front-gable roofed structures, usually with entrances on both gable ends. Farmers often attached sheds to these structures for additional storage of farm implements. Built early in the twentieth century, the large, gambrel roof barn found at the Grover Cleveland Kennedy Farm is an excellent example of a combined livestock and hay barn. Also common are the small, front-gable, log, one or two pen barns used for general storage. The Phelps Farm has numerous examples of this type of both log and frame.

The expansion of tobacco production following the Civil War resulted in the construction of numerous ancillary buildings necessary for the curing, storage, and processing of tobacco. While the shift from log construction to frame construction in outbuildings was prevalent throughout the county, farmers preferred to construct tobacco related buildings, especially curing barns, out of logs due to their ability to retain heat. This practice continued well into the twentieth century.

Traditionally, log tobacco curing barns were built sixteen, eighteen, twenty, or twenty-four feet square with a dirt floor. The notching of the logs varied, but the most common notch types in the county appear to have been the V-notch and the half-dovetail. Logs could be left round but were more typically hewn. Curing barns generally have one door and room for one or more furnaces fueled by wood, gas, or oil and topped by flues. Many tobacco barns were constructed with open sheds on one or more sides. Beneath these "looping" sheds, farm workers would sit and tie ("loop") the tobacco onto wooden poles prior to hanging them for curing.

Especially in the northern portions of the Orange County, tobacco barns were stuccoed to protect them from the weather--a pattern also seen in adjoining Caswell County. The Tapp Farm in extreme northern Orange County has several examples of this type. Located on both side of a long drive, the Tapp tobacco barns

measure approximately 18' x 18' and still retain a good deal of stucco. It was necessary to reapply or patch the stucco every few years to ensure the longevity of the barn.

Following the curing process, the tobacco was usually stored in a packhouse. These are typically log or frame, two-story, 'front-gable structures with two doors on each level. Prior to taking the tobacco to market, the cured leaves would be separated according to grades of quality and bundled. The bundled tobacco would then be placed in an "ordering" pit to moisten the brittle, dry leaves. Generally these tobacco-related buildings were used for storage or left vacant during the winter months. In addition to the Tapp Farm, Orange County has dozens of outstanding examples of log curing barns. At the G.T. Penecost Farm, several log tobacco barns line each side of a farm road. The Tally Homeplace contains at least a half dozen examples of log curing barns, similarly arranged along a dirt farm road.

Following the Civil War and the end of slavery, former slave houses were often utilized as tenant housing. In antebellum years, these houses had been clustered in close proximity to the main house. Over time, many of these houses were moved to new sites. As new tenant housing was built, the new houses tended to be located farther away from the main house, as small single-family dwellings. This is the case with the Phelps Farm, the Robert Breeze Farm, and the Tally Homeplace. At each of these

farm complexes the tenant houses are located between one-eighth and one-quarter of a mile from the main farmhouse.

Typically, these post-Civil War tenant houses were frame or log, side-gable structures usually one-and-a-half to two stories in height. Many continued old house plans and forms prevalent before the Civil War. The tenant house at the Phelps Farm is a one-room, one-and-a-half story log house sheathed in board and batten. The Robert Breeze Farm has a one-and-a-half story stuccoed log tenant house located south of the main house.

At the Ira Rogers Farm in northern Orange County there are three tenant houses associated with a large tobacco complex. Each of the houses was built away from, yet in view of, the main house. The earliest tenant dwelling, ca. 1880, is a one-room, one-story log structure with a frame addition to the side. In 1912, Ira Rogers built a large, two-story, four-bay frame tenant house with an interior ridgeline chimney. The third structure is a one-and-a-half story, two-bay house, thought to be partly log. Each of these dwellings is the center of a small complex, with small ancillary buildings such as chicken coops, wells, sheds, and corncribs.

Though traditional in form and materials, the tenant houses of Orange County exemplify a variety of different forms. Two tenant houses at the Tally Homeplace in northern Orange County

illustrate this variety. Both houses date to ca. 1900. The first displays a form often seen among Caswell County tenant houses--a tall, narrow, one-room over one-room, one-bay house. The second dwelling is much larger: a two-story, side-gable house features two rooms down and two rooms up.

Certain forms of tenant houses were repeated frequently in particular areas of the county. In northern Orange County, for example, the one-room over one-room house was especially prevalent as it was in adjoining Caswell County. Often, these frame dwellings would have a one-story shed addition to the rear. Tenant houses in the Caldwell area, in northern Orange County were consistently built as two-story, frame, side-gable structures with one interior chimney, an adaptation of the traditional log saddlebag plan. Many feature two front doors opening from a full-length , one-story front porch. Examples can be found throughout the northeast part of the county with especially intact houses at the James Wood Farm and the Thomas Blalock Farm.

Churches

As in the county's dwellings, a consistent pattern in the religious architectural landscape of Orange County is that of rebuilding, replacing, and updating. Most of the churches in the county date from after the Civil War, with St. Mary's Church

being the principal exception. While many of the county's congregations have antebellum origins, almost invariably the original structures--many of which were log-- were replaced following the Civil War. Like the rural houses of the county, churches were simple in plan with little if any ornamentation. The majority are frame, gable-front buildings, built on a simple nave plan. The Gothic Revival became the preferred style for late nineteenth and early twentieth century churches. Carr United Methodist Church exhibits such Gothic Revival influences in its Gothic-arched windows and a bell tower. Other notable examples of this rural adaption of the Gothic Revival style are Pleasant Green Church near Durham, Mars Hill Baptist Church north of Hillsborough, and Bethel Baptist Church. Pleasant Green Church (1909-1910) is an especially picturesque example, with a large bell-tower with an entrance foyer standing at the front-gable end of the church and each side marked with pointed-arched windows. Bethel Baptist Church is unusual in that the front features a recessed entranceway. Notable stained glass windows line each side of the church.

In the first few decades of the twentieth century other styles came into vogue. Bethlehem Presbyterian Church, built in 1922 at Oaks, exhibits several Neoclassical Revival influences including a monumental portico with square columns, delicate dentil work, and large, nine-over-nine sash windows. Typical of many churches, Bethlehem's congregation was formed early in the

nineteenth century, but the church itself has been replaced at least three times.

Although the majority of historic churches are frame, two churches were constructed of local fieldstone. Cedar Grove United Methodist Church and Walnut Grove United Methodist Church are picturesque, Gothic Revival churches built of stone in the early 1930s. They both feature casement windows, stained glass, and ornamental buttresses. Cedar Grove United Methodist Church, located in the heart of the Cedar Grove community, has been an integral part of the religious and social life in the area since it was constructed. Walnut Grove United Methodist Church was established in the early nineteenth century with this at least the third structure the congregation has occupied.

Cemeteries, typically located adjacent to churches, are an essential component of the church complex, revealing much about the history of a church and its congregation. Graves dating from before the Civil War are often marked with simple fieldstones, sometimes identified but more often not inscribed. Among the largest in the county, the cemetery associated with the Little River Presbyterian Church contains some of the earliest graves in the county, dating from the eighteenth century onward including a few immigrants from England and Scotland.

Dozens of family cemeteries also dot the rural landscape. These

plots are typically small, fenced areas dominated by large cedar trees and periwinkle. Often slaves were buried in the same cemetery as the white family, although usually separated from them. The Walker Family Cemetery is probably the most notable example of a family burial plot featuring a low stone wall and decorative wrought iron gate. Other important family plots include the Turrentine Family Cemetery, containing graves of eighteenth century settlers, the Durham Family Cemetery, which reputedly contains approximately sixty unmarked slave graves.

Generally, gravestones in Orange County's historic family and church cemeteries are of two types. The first is a simple fieldstone, usually marking early graves or those of less prosperous families. Typically unidentified, there are a few examples with roughly etched names. Granite and quartz markers are common, especially in the graves dating from the later years of the nineteenth century. In the African-American cemetery at Lee's Chapel there are several cameo-style photographs of the deceased embedded in simple concrete slabs.

Schools

Following the Civil War, schools continued to be built of log, but gradually frame construction began to supplant log. These late-nineteenth and early twentieth century schools, whether log or frame, were usually only one or two rooms. Foxes Knob School

near Mebane opened in the mid-1880s as a one-room log school, and by the turn of the century, it was enlarged with the frame addition of another room; the building was later used as a residence. Damascus Church School and Hickory Grove School, both in Chapel Hill Township were also converted to dwellings.

Breeze School, near Caldwell, probably opened in the 1890s. The frame building originally featured two small rooms with shuttered six-over-six windows. By 1938, the school was closed and building was used as a tobacco pack house. Similarly, Caldwell School located on land donated by Robert Lee Miller, closed in the early 1920s. Jordan Grove School, the only surviving field school building identified with African-Americans, sits abandoned and deteriorated in a field, having been closed since the 1930s. According to nearby residents the frame school originally had two rooms where grades one through eight were taught.

Across North Carolina, many of the public schools for African-Americans during the early twentieth century were built with the aid of the Julius Rosenwald Fund. Ridge School, north of Hillsborough, was built in the 1920s with financial backing from this fund. Typically, these frame or brick schools were constructed according to standardized plans, which included rows of windows to maximize interior lighting and to provide ventilation during the warm months. Ridge School, constructed of wood, features two front doors and a long row of windows on the

rear of the building.

With statewide school consolidation in the 1920s, larger schools were built at specified centralized sites. The purpose of consolidation was to provide better education to students in rural areas. These schools were generally constructed of brick and contained four to eight classrooms with a small auditorium. White Cross School and Murphy School near Hillsborough are two notable examples in Orange County. Typical of consolidation-era schools, White Cross School, built in 1933, features four large classrooms, divided by an auditorium in the middle. Murphy School, built in the 1920s, is a large, one-story brick building with a hipped roof. To the western side of the building a brick auditorium with a Doric portico was added a few years after construction of the main building. There is a large frame bungalow to the rear of the school which might have functioned as housing for the six to eight teachers who staffed the school.

Stores

Rural country stores served as centers of community life and as distribution centers for goods not generally grown on farms. Generally built at the junction of two well-travelled roads, country stores would often open next to a mill. When a post

office was established it usually operated in the store building. One of the oldest general stores in the county is Pender Store in Cedar Grove, which has been in continuous use since its establishment in 1880. Typical of its era, the building is a two-story front-gable structure with gable returns and two one-story side shed additions. The interior is unaltered, still retaining its original shelving and floors.

Ellis Store, also at Cedar Grove, built in 1922, carries forward many features of late-nineteenth century commercial buildings. The two-story frame building has a shed roof and Italianate-inspired eave brackets more typical of the 1880s and 1890s. The building still retains its original recessed entranceway and large, multi-paned display windows.

Just north of Cedar Grove at McDade Crossroads are two historic commercial buildings of different eras. The first McDade Store was built in the 1880s and is remarkably similar to Ellis Store just south of McDade. Two stories in height, the building would have dominated the rural crossroads of McDade. Across the street is McDade Store #2. This early 1920s building features a projecting bungaloid porte cochere, designed to shelter motorists from the elements when purchasing gasoline. Blackwelder's Service Station, on US 70 near Hillsborough, is typical of early twentieth century roadside architecture. The building, erected in the early 1920s to serve the newly built US 70, features the

usual front canopy. The large nine-over-nine sash windows were salvaged from a demolished school in Durham.

AFTERWORD

Orange County's architectural heritage is varied and important representing styles and influences from the late eighteenth century (mostly in Chapel Hill and Hillsborough) to the present day. While antebellum architecture in the county is distinguished by the use of local materials and building traditions, the post-Civil War buildings represent an adoption of a national vernacular. A standardization took place following the War due to the expansion of the railroad, increased efficiency in communications through illustrated journals and magazines, and the migration of professionals into the piedmont. With few exceptions, the architecture of the twentieth century in Orange County does not differ substantially from architecture across the nation. For this reason it is critical to maintain the architecture that defines Orange County's historic heritage and development. With the rapid pace of growth Orange County is now experiencing due in part to Research Triangle Park, the University of North Carolina, and the general population surge of the piedmont, the county's architectural legacy is in some danger of eradication.. While growth and development is desirable, it is paramount that they come with careful planning with a vision of continuity and identity. The intrinsic value of the county's historic houses, churches, public buildings, stores, and agrarian landscapes provide an invaluable and irreplaceable sense of place. The following inventory is a list historic structures,

yet more importantly, it is a link, both emotional and physical to the people who built these structures and to days gone by.